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Report of Annual Convention

OF

ALBERTA WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

HELD IN THE

PALLISER HOTEL, CALGARY

May 25, 26, 27, 28, 1926

AND

Report of Annual Convention

OF THE

ALBERTA WOMEN'S INSTITUTE GIRLS' CLUB

HELD IN JASPER

July 8, 9, 10, 1926

PRINTED UNDER THE DIRECTION AND WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

EDMONTON:
Printed by W. D. McLean, Acting King's Printer
1926

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LIST OF OFFICERS, 1925-27

President

Mrs. W. Huyck, Strome

Vice-President

Mrs. Wm. Stewart, Peace River

Secretary-Treasurer

Mrs. A. H. Rogers, Fort Saskatchewan

Directors

Mrs. James Boyd, Varena
Mrs. C. A. Gates, Stony Plain
Mrs. H. J. Montgomery, Wetaskiwin
Mrs. C. Lynch-Staunton, Lundbreck

Conveners of Standing Committees

Child Welfare and Public Health—Mrs. J. F. Anderson, Jr., Raymond
Education and Better Schools—Mrs. W. C. Short, Box 393, Edmonton
Legislation—Mrs. A. C. Bury, Olds
Immigration—Mrs. W. Barss, Delia.
Household Economics—Mrs. Macgregor-Smith, 11122 84th Ave., Edmonton
Agriculture—Mrs. M. A. Murphy, Cowley
Publicity—Mrs. J. F. Price, 1120 15th St. N.W., Calgary.
Canadianization and National Events—Mrs. J. P. Ferguson, Trochu

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF ALBERTA WOMEN'S INSTITUTES, HELD IN CALGARY, MAY 25th, 26th, 27th AND 28th, 1926

Tuesday Evening, May 25th

Formal Opening of Convention, 8 p.m.

The 12th Annual Convention of the Alberta Women's Institutes was formally opened on Tuesday evening in the Ball-room of the Palliser Hotel, Calgary, with the singing of "O Canada." Over 350 delegates were present.

The Provincial President, Mrs. Wellington Huyck, Strome, presided, assisted by Mrs. Wm. Stewart, Vice-President, and Miss Jessie Macmillan, Director of Women's Home Bureau Service, of the Department of Agriculture, Edmonton.

The assembly singing throughout the Convention was most pleasingly and capably conducted by Mrs. Kelley, Spring Coulee, at the piano, and Mrs. Montgomery, Wetaskiwin, who was the winner of the competition in sight-reading in singing at the recent Musical Festival held in Edmonton, acting as leader.

The Invocation and Creed were read by Mrs. Boyd, Varena.

Mrs. Stewart very graciously introduced Mrs. Huyck as the presiding officer of the Convention, acting in her official capacity for the first time.

Heartfelt greetings were offered by the president, Mrs. Huyck, to all attending the Convention, with a cordial welcome to newcomers, and the recommendation to carry back with them one thought, i.e., the preservation and beautifying of the home.

Greetings and good wishes were brought from the Calgary Women's Institute by the President, Mrs. G. H. Garrad, who also presented a lovely bouquet of flowers.

Mrs. Wyman in bringing greetings from the U.F.W.A. spoke of the beneficent interchange of courtesies in the work of building up community life and bade a gracious God speed.

Greetings from the Calgary Local Council of Women were presented by Mrs. MacWilliams, President.

The reply to these greetings was made by Mrs. J. N. Beaubier, past-president of the A.W.I., who spoke of the hopes and ideals of all women being identical, to accept gratefully the blessings sent to us and to beware the burdens of jealousy, discontent, suspicion, and lack of understanding.

A beautiful basket of marigolds was presented by the members of the Girls' Clubs with their love.

A very pleasing pianoforte selection was played by Master Jack Cawston who, two years previously, had entertained the Convention at Calgary.

Miss Marguerite MacKeracher also delighted us with a piano solo.

In addressing the Convention the Hon. George Hoadley, Minister of Agriculture, commended the "Alberta Pantry" W. I. Exhibit at the Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto. He announced the intention of the Government to provide an Old People's Home at Gleichen, this, "The Eventide Home," to be in charge of the Salvation Army. The building with 25 acres of lands is to be granted for the nominal rental of $1 per annum. He also pointed out the dangers of the ever-increasing moron problem and urged that measures be taken to curb this menace.

Mr. Webster, Mayor of Calgary, sent a message of regret that he was detained from being present to extend a welcome from the city by unavoidable stress of business.

Hon. J. E. Brownlee, Premier of Alberta, was also unable to be present.

The session closed with the National Anthem.

Wednesday Morning, May 26th.

The morning session opened at 9.30, the presiding officers being Mrs. Huyck and Mrs. C. Lynch-Staunton, Director.

The songs sung were: "There's a Long, Long Trail," and "Ye Banks and Braes."

The following committee was appointed to act with the executive as a Resolution Committee: Mrs. Strauch, Killam, and Mrs. J. B. Sutherland, Macleod.

A motion to have a photograph of the delegates in Convention was presented and carried.

Also the matter of a personal present being made to Lady Byng by the women of Canada on the departure of the Governor-General and Lady Byng, was considered, it being decided that contributions would be received in the afternoon.

The Secretary-Treasurer's Report was presented by Mrs. A. H. Rogers, who in giving the statement of receipts and expenditures which showed the small balance on hand of $215.20 with which to meet any unanticipated expenses that may arise, strongly impressed upon the representatives of the Institutes the urgent necessity of every Institute paying their allotment towards the Provincial Fund. It was pointed out that many worthy but outside charities are being most liberally supported whereas our first duty was to our organization. A resolution that Article 3, Section (a), of the Constitution be amended to read: "The yearly dues of each branch shall be 50 cents per member, reckoned on the membership at the end of the calendar year; but where the membership is less than sixteen, a minimum bill of $8 per branch shall be required," was presented at the conclusion of the report.

In giving her Presidential Report, Mrs. Huyck, spoke of her travels along the old Athabasca Trail to visit several Institutes of the North. On behalf of the Alberta Institutes she thanked the following for their assistance towards the Alberta Exhibit, to those who sent donations of canned goods and funds, the Department of Agriculture, Mrs. Rogers and Miss Macmillan, and Mrs. Stewart for her splendid work at the Exhibition. Mrs. Huyck made two recommendations, i.e., (1) Welcoming strangers, and (2) Assisting the Health Department.

Through Mrs. Scott, of Kinsella, Alberta, personal greetings were brought to the A.W.I. from the Scottish Institutes, in the words: "To all of you then, God speed. Lang may your lum reek."

The adoption of the president's report was moved by Mrs. Beaubier and seconded by Mrs. McCrae.

An invitation to a reception in the dining-room of the Palliser Hotel, Wednesday evening at 9 o'clock, was extended to the delegates by the Calgary Women's Institute.

In giving her report on Household Economics Mrs. Macgregor Smith, convener of that standing committee, had arranged an amusing skit, "The Meeting of the Tunerville Institute." The prizes to the winners in the competition for receipts for the Fireless Cooker were then presented, the first going to Mrs. A. T. Martin, Vulcan, and the second to Mrs. Hilliker, Viking. Mrs. E. A. Wright, Edmonton, receiving honorable mention. The prizes were donations by the Hudson's Bay Company.

Hon. Mr. Hoadley here had an announcement to make re Alberta's present to Lady Byng, which consisted of views of Alberta's mountains and National Parks, and photographs of Alberta's two prize-winning babies.

Mr. C. W. Peterson, editor of the Farm and Ranch Review, Calgary, spoke on the problems of Colonization, in regard to farm and domestic labor, showing a profound study of the subject and bespeaking the aid of women's organizations to help make the new settlers contended and happy.

AFTERNOON SESSION, WEDNESDAY, MAY 26TH.

It was necessary to hold this session in the dining room of the Palliser, owing to some misunderstanding on the part of the hotel management, and unfortunately we were much disturbed by noises of traffic, etc., outside.

The session opened with the song, "The Bells of Saint Mary." The presiding officers were Mrs. Huyck and Mrs. Gates.

The Report on Immigration was given by Mrs. Barss, Delia, convener of that Standing Committee, who referred to the activities of different organizations as well as of the Dominion Government in the inducements being offered settlers to come to Canada, and without meaning to criticize questioned why this should be the case. The acceptance of this report was moved and seconded.

A very interesting address containing many practical suggestions was given by Mr. Norman Ross of the Canadian Forestry Branch on "Tree Planting on the Prairie." The text of this address may be found in full on another page of the Report.

Miss Esther Zerkle entertained the assembly with a vocal solo.

Mrs. Nellie McClung spoke most entertainingly on the Problems of Canadian Nationality, comparing the Women's Institute to the catalyser in a chemical experiment, and suggesting that by acting in such a character women might do much to make a coherent whole out of warring factions. The solution of these problems is in the people of Canada striving to maintain an all-Canadian view, and so to become greater Canadians.

The Palliser Orchestra under the leadership of Mr. Frank Henderson gave a delightful rendition of "Rose Marie," the Canadian Opera, followed by "Out of the Dusk to You."

During a short intermission contributions were received for the Canadian Women's gift to Lady Byng, the sum of $50.00 being contributed by the Alberta Women's Institute.

Mrs. W. C. Short, Woodbend, convener of of the Standing Committee of Education and Better Schools, covered a wide field in her report, lamenting however the fact of receiving so few reports from the branches. Mrs. Short would have adopted as the motto for the coming year: "Every Child in School Every Day Possible."

Her report was followed by a most delightful address by Miss Donalda Dickie who spoke on "Books Every Young Person Should Read." Miss Dickie has compiled a series of History Readers for use in the Schools, and in which is contained the History of the Women's Institutes of Canada.

The session adjourned at 5.15 p.m. when the Calgary Press Club entertained the Executive at tea in the grill-room of the Palliser.

Wednesday Evening at 9 p.m. the entire Convention was tendered a reception in the dining-room of the Palliser Hotel, by the Calgary Women's Institute when a delightful program was presented, the pupils of Miss Phyllis Morrison giving several quaint dances, Miss Morrison herself giving the Dance of the Dying Swan with wonderful expression. Other numbers of entertainment were: Mrs. J. H. Jamieson, a vocal solo, accompanied by Mrs. Motter; Miss Eleanor White, a vocal solo accompanied by Mrs. Cailes; also solos by Master Wedgewood Robinson, Mrs. W. E. Gray and Mrs. C. F. Craigon.

An entertaining skit, "What Every Woman Knows," was also presented.

After the presentation of the program, a delicious supper was served. The hostesses for the evening were: Mrs. G. H. Garrad, President of the Calgary W. I.; Mrs. A. MacWilliams, President of Local Council of Women; Mrs. Stockton, President of the Canadian Club; Mrs. Wilson, President of the Press Club; and Mrs. Hartshorn, President of the American Women's Club.

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 27TH

The Thursday morning session opened at 9 a.m. with the singing of the "Maple Leaf," the music of the day being all-Canadian.

The presiding officers were Mrs. Huyck and Mrs. Boyd.

The Report of District No. 1 was presented by Mrs. Boyd, Director, who moved the adoption, seconded by Mrs. Dickson.

The Standing Committee of Agriculture was reported by Mrs. M. A. Murphy, Cowley, convener. Mrs. Murphy covered the field very fully from wheat-growing to diversified farming, and reported that the Agricultural Products of Alberta were valued at $255,000,000. Reports were received re agriculture from 75 Institutes. Mrs. Murphy moved the acceptance of this report, seconded by Mrs. Dahl, Standard.

Miss Noble reported there are now 51 Girls' Clubs. She spoke at length of the Convention to be held at Jasper Park this coming summer and of the list of prizes offered by the Department and officers of the Institute.

The adoption of the report was moved by Miss Noble and seconded by Mrs. Gibson.

The acceptance of the report of District No. 3 was moved by Mrs. Montgomery, Wetaskiwin, Director, and seconded by Mrs. Rodell.

Miss Macmillan in reporting on the Women's Home Bureau Service of the Department of Agriculture, spoke of the increasing success of the Demonstrations and Lecture Courses of the Department. In referring to the financial situation of the Alberta Women's Institutes, Miss Macmillan highly commended the faithful services of our devoted secretary-treasurer and remarked that it was a tribute of appreciation to her that 208 out of 282 Institutes had already this year contributed their share to the Provincial Fund.

During the year 1925, the Alberta Institutes had raised $42,063.42. 2,436 people had attended the 36 constituency conferences held last fall. There are now 51 Girls' Clubs by which $2,678.88 was raised in 1926.

The Institutes throughout the province had received from the Home Bureau Service: 13 courses in Household Economics; 80 in Sewing; 50 in Millinery; 22 in Basketry, with a total attendance of 15,789.

Books of Plays and Entertainment may be obtained from the Loan Collection. 72 Circulating Libraries were sent out, 174 pamphlets, and 205 committees on immigration have been formed.

Report of District No. 4 was given by Mrs. C. Lynch-Staunton, Director, seconded by Mrs. Howard.

A most interesting feature of the morning session was an illustrated report by Mrs. Wm. Stewart, Peace River, of the Women's Institutes Exhibit at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto, last year. Mrs. Stewart, who is Vice-President of the Alberta Women's Institutes, was in charge of the Alberta Exhibit and told of many interesting and amusing incidents, all of which in her capable hands tended to reflect much credit and honour to the province she was representing.

The session adjourned at 12 noon.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 27TH.

The afternoon session opened with a special request number, the song "Paddle Your Own Canoe," sung by Mrs. Montgomery, then the singing of "Men of the North." The presiding officers were Mrs. Huyck and Mrs. Montgomery.

Greetings from the Provincial Red Cross Society were graciously presented by Mrs. Conquest, Calgary.

Mrs. Ferguson, Trochu, Convener of the Standing Committee of Canadianization and National Events, presented an excellent report, urging the fostering of a deeper sense of Canadianism through the study of Canadian literature, music, statesmen, by the presentation of flags to schools, by assistance to new Canadians, by encouraging Canadian programs and demonstrations on National days.

Mrs. Ferguson moved the adoption of her report, seconded by Mrs. Alcock.

A delightful piano solo was played by Miss Ethel Mitchell.

In her report on the Standing Committee of Child Welfare and Public Health, Mrs. J. F. Anderson, Raymond, Convener, spoke of the visits of inspection made to the different institutions throughout the province by the Provincial Health Committee and of the satisfactory condition of these in respect to health; but of the tremendous problems they nevertheless are, in which we are all concerned. Let our slogan be; "Every Community Healthy, Every Home a Health Centre."

The adoption of this report was moved by Mrs. Anderson, and seconded by Mrs. Fulton.

The Convention was then entertained by a violin solo by Miss Mitchell.

The foregoing program was followed by Magistrate Emily Murphy, Edmonton, who was the principal speaker of the afternoon session. Mrs. Murphy spoke chiefly on the Mental Hospitals of Alberta, her talk being illustrated with films of Institutional Life, and she bespoke our deepest consideration and sympathy for the hapless unfortunates who require the attention and care of these institutions.

At 4 o'clock Thursday afternoon the Convention was entertained at a delightful tea in the Elizabethan Dining-room of the Hudson's Bay, on the hospitable invitation of Mr. Johnson, manager.

THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 27TH.

The Thursday evening session opened with the singing of "Land of Hope and Glory," and "Love's Old Sweet Song," after which Miss May Studor played a delightful 'cello solo.

Mrs. Harold Riley, President of the Calgary Council on Child Welfare, gave an instructive and inspirational talk on Child Welfare, saying that our greatest patriotic work is in saving our children of today, the work of which might be carried on along the lines of—(1) Care of the Child; (2) Control of Child Labor; (3) Recreation, and (4) Development.

A most entertaining feature of the evening's program was the illustrated talk on our beautiful mountains and National Parks of Alberta, given by Mr. M. D. Geddes, a prominent member of the Alpine Club. Mr. Geddes gave a delightful travelogue of Canada's great "National Playgrounds," displaying in realistically colored films, the beauty of the Alpine flowers that clothe the Rocky Mountain slopes even above the snow-line, the picturesque beauty of Banff, jewel-like lakes of the Rockies, beautiful Lake Louise, the tremendous "Iron Gate" of the Windemere trail, wonderful Waterton, and the superb grandeur of Jasper, with the pictures of which and with his interesting talks his audience was simply entranced.

The session adjourned about 10.30.

FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 28TH.

The session opened at 9.15 with the singing of "Old Folks at Home," and "Row, Row, Row Your Boat." Mrs. Huyck and Mrs. Stewart, Vice-president, presiding.

The report for District No. 2 was presented by Mrs. Gates, Stony Plain, Director, who moved its acceptance, seconded by Mrs. Short.

Mrs. J. F. Price in giving her report on the Standing Committee of Publicity, congratulated the Institutes throughout the province on the high standard achieved in their report and urged the Women's Institute to prepare some appropriate celebration of the Dominion's Diamond Jubilee for Canada. In speaking of publicity, Mrs. Price considered that the finest throughout the past year was the inclusion of the story of the Women's Institutes in the new Grade VIII. Reader, prepared by Miss Donalda Dickie. In England, Mrs. Price stated, there are over 3,000 Institute branches, and 39,000 women subscribe to the Institute paper, "Home and Country." The motion of acceptance of this report by Mrs. Price was seconded by Mrs. Hames, Cavendish.

Mrs. G. E. Bury, Olds, Convener of the Standing Committee of Legislation, having been ill in hospital for some time, was unable to present her report. A motion that the loving regards and sympathy of the Alberta Institutes be expressed by sending a bouquet of flowers to Mrs. Bury, was made by Mrs. Barss and seconded by Mrs. Scott and heartily endorsed by the Convention.

Mr. Fitch, B.A., LL.B., then presented a most interesting address on "Naturalization," which was given from the viewpoint chiefly as it concerned women. The question propounded for the Convention being: "Should a woman's nationality be based upon her own qualifications or upon the status of her husband."

Mrs. J. N. Beaubier, Past-President of the A. W. I. and representative of the Alberta Women's Institutes at the Federated Women's Institute Biennial Convention held at Victoria last summer, gave a most excellent and inspiring report of that meeting of representatives of all the Institutes of Canada. The great aim and object of the National organization, Mrs. Beaubier stressed, was to reach the individual homes of the 60,000 members. The adoption of the report was moved by Mrs. Beaubier and seconded by Mrs. Holmes. Mrs. Beaubier prefaced her report by sorrowful reference of the tragic loss of our loved secretary, Mrs. Rogers, in the passing of her son, Asa, and voiced the deep sympathy and grief of all fellow-Institute members throughout the province.

The singing of "Drink to Me Only With Thine Eyes," and "Auld Lang Syne" then followed.

On the wish of the Convention it was decided to continue the session without adjournment and to complete all unfinished business and resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS

Number 1: Recommending stricter enforcement of the laws regarding quarantine of infectious diseases with a view to preventing epidemics.—Endorsed.

Number 2: Recommending free medical inspection of Rural Schools.

While the principle was commended, it was decided that this matter should be left to the School Districts to handle.

Number 3: Asking the Department of Education or the Schools Department, to arrange some sort of graduation exercises, with prizes and suitable program, with a view to encouraging pupils to complete Grade VIII. work.

The general opinion was that such exercises might easily be arranged by the Institutes or school authorities in the various districts.

Number 4: Recommending that longer time be allowed for the mathematics examination.—Defeated.

Number 5: Asking that a uniform course of study be inaugurated throughout Canada.

It was pointed out that this matter is under consideration.

Number 6: Urging that the Truancy Act be enforced more promptly.

This was considered to be amply provided for by the school laws.

Number 7: Requesting that the time of the Annual Convention be changed to one of greater convenience. Was carefully considered but no more convenient date could be decided upon.

Number 8: A resolution from the secretary of the Girls' Clubs, asking that a Convener of Girls' Clubs be appointed in each constituency, was amended: that the Constituency Convener be appointed Constituency Supervisor of Girls' Clubs. —Carried.

Number 9: Re Household Helpers.

Resolved that: (1) the W. I. approves the suggestion of a course for trained home helpers, and (2) that the Institutes will assist in securing suitable women to avail themselves of such a course, if offered.—Carried.

Votes of thanks were tendered to the Calgary Women's Institute, the Press,

the management of the Hudson's Bay Company, the musicians, and speakers, and all who assisted towards the program.

The Convention closed with the singing of "For She's a Jolly Good Fellow" and cheers for the President, followed by "God Save the King."

EMMA LYNCH STAUNTON,
(Acting-Secretary for the Convention.)

NOTE.—A letter of greeting was received from Mrs. F. W. Hughes, former director and now of Victoria, Virginia. Mrs. Hughes takes the Alberta Farmer and follows the work of the Institutes with her old time interest. Her kindest wishes are extended to us.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Madam President and Ladies:

I beg to submit the following report as Secretary-Treasurer of the Alberta Women's Institutes.

A meeting of the Advisory Board was held directly after the Convention in May, 1925. Petty accounts for expenses in connection with the Convention were ordered paid. It was agreed that the sum of $300.00 be placed at the disposal of the President to be used at her discretion in furthering the work of Women's Institutes in Alberta. The sum of $10.00 was given to the Girls' Club with the good wishes of the Advisory Board.

In order to avoid the necessity of having a complete change of Conveners of Standing Committees in 1927 when those elected in 1923 would automatically retire having completed the term for which they were eligible, the Advisory Board decided to make some changes in 1925. The following Conveners were appointed:

Education and Better Schools—Mrs. W. C. Short, Woodbend W. I., Box 393, Edmonton.

Publicity—Mrs. J. F. Price, 1220 15th St. N.W., Calgary.

Agriculture—Mrs. M. A. Murphy, Cowley.

Legislation— Mrs. A. C. Bury, Olds.

Immigration—Mrs. W. Barss, Delia.

Canadianization and National Events—Mrs. J. P. Ferguson, Trochu.

Household Economics—Mrs. J. Macgregor Smith, 11122 84th Ave., Edmonton.

Child Welfare and Public Health—Mrs. J. S. Anderson, Jr., Raymond.

A tribute of appreciation was given to the retiring Conveners for their faithful and earnest service and letters of thanks were sent to Mrs. Grevett, Mrs. Morley, Mrs. Montgomery and Mrs. Porter.

Through the co-operation of the branches with the Directors and by reason of the charm and ability of our Director in charge in Toronto, the Alberta Pantry Exhibit at the Canadian National Exhibition was a huge success. Mrs. Stewart will give a full account of this later in the Convention. Mrs. Stewart's expenses were paid at the time out of our Provincial Fund but later were refunded by the Department of Agriculture and so do not appear on our financial sheet.

Mrs. Beaubier was chosen delegate to attend the Federated Women's Institute Convention in Victoria in June and will give this Convention a report thereon. A copy of the F. W. I. C. Convention Report was sent to every Institute in Alberta, and any of the delegates wishing to have a copy for herself is asked to get one at the door of the Convention hall.

The report of the Alberta W. I. Convention was compiled and edited as soon as possible and a copy was sent to every branch, to each Constituency Convener, Conveners of Standing Committees and the Advisory Board. This year the whole cost of printing was paid by the Department as a much better price was obtained this year than formerly.

There are 284 Institutes in Alberta, 205 of which have paid their Provincial Fund. A number more will probably pay within the next few days. Some of the others are inactive at present but do not wish to be removed from the list as they intend to resume activities as soon as enough people come into the district to have a working membership. It is a fair estimate that 72 per cent. of the Institutes are paid up. While this is encouraging there are still far too many Institutes contributing much less than it needs to pay the average railway fare. The average fare to the 1925 Convention was slightly over $8.00 and the average fare to the 1926 Convention is almost $9.50. At that rate, should every Institute send a delegate, as indeed they should, the cost of fares alone would be considerably

over $200 more than our current dues. I would like to suggest that you consider having a minimum fee for the Provincial Fund. That is, that where the membership is less than 16 a minimum fee of say $8.00 be required. This would not affect very many but it would help. All Institutes with a membership of 16 or more would pay the same as they do now, that is, 50 cents per member. A few branches have paid more than their share which shows a very fine spirit indeed. What we need is not more branches but increased membership and interest in the branches we have. Let us bear this in mind during the year.

Owing to the circumstances attending the tragedy in the home of your secretary, the resolutions were somewhat late in being sent out this year and there may possibly have been some omissions. If so, will the delegates interested please get in touch with the Resolutions Committee?

The financial statement covering monies handled from May 22nd, 1925, to May 20th, 1926, follows. When remitting money will the secretaries please be sure to state the name of the Institute as well as the post office address?

STATEMENTS OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

From May 22nd, 1925, to May 20th, 1926

RECEIPTS

Balance of Current Revenue May 22nd, 1925	$ 272.40	
Interest	91.37	
Arrears of 1924-25 dues	152.75	
Current dues	2,331.13	
Contributions to C.N.E. Exhibit	58.75	
		$2,906.40

EXPENDITURES

Auditing	$ 5.00	
Fares and Convention	1,786.40	
P. W. I. C. Dues	400.00	
President's expenses	300.00	
Gift to Girls' Club	10.00	
Delegate to Victoria	118.50	
Affiliation fee	2.00	
Stamps	54.00	
Telephone, telegrams, stationery, exchange, etc.	15.30	
Balance of current revenue on hand	215.20	
		$2,906.40

Respectfully submitted,
MARION M. S. ROGERS,
Secretary-Treasurer.

Audited and found correct.
Fort Saskatchewan, May 20th, 1926.
H. W. Dodge, official auditor.

Arrears Paid Prior to December, 1925

Benton Valley	$ 5.00	Nilrem	$ 7.00
Cardston	7.00	Philo	10.85
Camrose	5.00	Strathmore	7.50
Dinton	13.35	Sunshine (bal.)	6.50
Fort McMurray	4.00	Vegreville	21.85
Golden Rule	9.85	Stanger	7.00
Hayter	13.00	Sundre	7.50
Leduc	11.35	Pincher Creek	16.00

NOTE—Through an error in the 1925 Report, Pioneer Circle was credited with $12.00. This should have been *Prairie Circle*.

Current Dues Paid for 1925-26

Argyle	$15.00	Alderside	$ 8.50
Athabasca	5.50	Albury	15.00
Airdrie	18.50	Angus Ridge	11.50

Alix	$31.00
Acadia	12.50
Arthurville-Paulson	3.85
Ashvale	7.00
Barons	16.50
Brant	18.00
Broadview	7.00
Blackfalds	21.85
Brooks	12.35
Buffalo View	10.85
Botha	17.00
Barnwell	....
Bassano	11.50
Beaver Mines	7.35
Buffalo	5.00
Bashaw	17.85
Busby	7.50
Bon Accord	7.50
Burdett	13.00
Better Days	14.85
Burnt Lake	7.50
Beaver Lodge (Lower)	9.00
Brooks	10.00
Brocket-Hillsboro	7.00
Cardston	10.00
Carmangay	12.50
Crossfield	10.00
Cowley	8.00
Coronation	13.50
Clearview	8.35
Chinook	8.00
Conjuring Creek	8.00
Champion	21.00
Carstairs	14.85
Camrose	4.00
Coaldale	14.50
Cluny	10.00
Collingwood	5.00
Condor	8 00
Cavendish	5.00
Conjuring Lake	12.00
Coleman	13.35
Cessford	7.50
Cremona	5.00
Daysland	21.50
Delburne	14.00
Delia	41.85
Dinton	13.35
D. E. L.	6 00
Drumheller	30.00
Duchess	10.50
Edson	18.85
Endeavour	15.00
Elnora	17.85
Erskine	10.35
Eagle Hill	15.50
Edmonton	22.35
Excel	8.50
Evansburgh	35.50
Emerald	4 00
Eastway	10.00
Fort Saskatchewan	24.00
Fleet	9.85
Fairview	11.50
Fort McMurray	4.00
Gem	9.35
Galahad	10.50
Granam	$19.50
Garrington	15.00
Golden Rule	11.35
Greencourt	10.00
Good Deeds	21.85
Grahamston	8.00
Garden Prairie	8.50
Grande Prairie	12.50
Glendale	7.00
Huxley	4.85
Hughenden	4.50
High Prairie	10.00
Halkirk	9.00
Hermit Lake	7.00
Hillsdown Valley	9.50
Hayter	10.00
Hesketh	9.00
Harmattan	20.00
Islay	16.00
Independence	4.50
Irvine	9.50
Jasper	31.85
Killam	10.85
Kinsella	6.50
Kinniburgh	9.00
Kirriemuir	13.00
Kitscoty	16.00
Kimiwan	7.50
Kirkaldy	10.50
Lacombe	10.00
Lousana	6.00
Leduc	12.00
Loyalist	10.50
Lockhart	10.00
Lanfine	12.85
Lundbreck	10.00
Langdon	21.00
Lake View	8.00
Leedale	6.00
Lens	4.00
Lone Pine	9.50
Magrath	10.00
Munson	20.50
Mountain View (Didsbury P.O.)	10.00
Milk River	11.00
Mahaska	6.00
Minburn	12.00
Millet	10.00
Milnerton	7.35
Metiskow	7.00
Medicine Hat	11.85
Macleod	25.00
Mayerthorpe	7.00
Mid-Pembina	8.00
Manyberries	7.50
Mountain Park	5.00
Mirror	20.35
Mountain View (Mt. View P.O.)	6.00
New Dayton	15.00
Nilrem	8.00
New West	7.50
Olds	13.00
Oyen	12.35
Ohatan	7.00
Orion	5.50
Provost	14.00
Prairie Circle	11.00

Penhold	$ 6.00
Peace River	7.00
Pine Creek	15.50
Patricia	12.85
Pickardville	7.50
Queenstown	20.00
Rugby	17.00
Raymond	20.00
Reid Hill	9.85
Ryley	14.00
Rush Centre	10.50
Ribstone	10.00
Redlandview	10.00
Rosedale	20.85
Rose Willow	5.00
Stony Plain	11.85
Strathmore	8.05
Sibbald	19.85
Strome	12.00
Standard	7.50
Social Plains	6.65
Sentinel Hill	19.85
Spring Coulee	10.00
Scenic Heights	4.50
St. Eloi	5.50
Sugar Bowl	5.50
Springburn	12.50
Sunshine	.50
Scollard	7.00
Stonyhurst	16.00
Starline	$25.00
Sedgewick	10.00
Stettler	15.33
Sylvan Lake	10.00
Siebertbille	6.50
Silver Heights	5.00
Trochu	9.00
Talbot	11.50
Three Hills	13.85
United Prairie	11.00
Vulcan	22.00
Verdant Valley	14.00
Viking	20.00
Veteran	14.50
Vermilion	12.50
Walsh	7.35
Wetaskiwin	17.50
Warner	11.00
Wainwright	16.35
Wide Awake	10.00
Winterburn	15.85
Westward Ho	10.00
Waverley	8.50
Watt Lake	7.00
Westlock	15.50
Woodbend	11.00
Warspite	16.00
Wayne	15.00
Youngstown	8.00
Gift from West Olds Constituency	5.00

Contributions to the C.N.E. Exhibit

Collected at Convention, 1925	$20.70
United Prairie	1.00
Langdon	5.00
Fort Saskatchewan	1.00
Standard	2.35
Lanfine	1.00
Good Deeds	4.85
Eastway	1.00
Patricia	1.00
Lougheed	1.00
Pincher Creek	1.00
Manyberries	1.50
Coaldale	1.00
Lundbreck	1.00
Vulcan	$ 1.00
Raymond	1 00
Acadia	1.00
Daysland	1.00
Ohatan	1.00
Harmattan	3.00
Coleman	.85
Scenic Heights	1.00
Grahamston	2.00
Calgary	1.00
Chancellor	1.00
Kirkaldy	.50
Irvine	1.00
	$58.75

The following Institutes have paid since the books were closed on May 20th, 1926, and will appear in next year's audit.

Bindloss	$11.50
Barnwell	5.50
Chancellor	9.00
Calgary	25.35
Didsbury	14.85
Ever Ready	13.00
Flying Shot	4.50
Hardisty	....
Horseshoe Canyon	18.50
Onoway	$ 3.00
Philo	13.35
Southern Prairie	11.00
Sexsmith	8.00
Shouldice	5.00
Sunnynook	10.50
Taber	7.00
Uncas	3.00

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Mrs. W. Huyck, Strome

The conclusion of this Convention will mark the closing of one more year's work of the Alberta Women's Institutes.

Each succeeding annual convention has been the log-book in which was recorded year by year a steady and worth-while progress. As your president I have the honor and the responsibility of adding one more record this year, and it gives me a great deal of satisfaction and pleasure to be able to report that a review of the work of the past year will show a steady gain.

At the convener's meeting held at the close of the last Convention, when the matter of the work of "Standing Committees" was under discussion, a suggestion was made, which was unanimously accepted and acted upon, that each provincial convener of Standing Committee, at a very early date, send an outline of her proposed year's work to Miss Macmillan's office, where it would be stencilled and copies of same sent to District Directors, who in turn would, at each Constituency Conference, give a copy to the newly appointed Constituency Chairman of each committee. In this way the Constituency Chairman had an outline of work from her Provincial Convener as soon as she came into office and if she understood her duty, and fulfilled it, each Institute was informed at an early date of the year's outline of work in the various standing committees.

From monthly reports received from the individual branches I am led to believe that this plan has worked well and has resulted in a decided improvement in co-ordinating the work of the various standing committees throughout the province.

Last Autumn, District Directors were, for the first time, supplied with report forms. Each Director filled out these forms at the Constituency Conferences, and, at the close of her itinerary, forwarded them to the Provincial Secretary. In this way the Secretary secured a great deal of necessary information which heretofore it had been very difficult for her to obtain, in fact she often could not get the information needed, despite the writing of innumerable letters.

At the Advisory Board meeting following the Convention last year the constituencies of Wainwright, Camrose and Leduc were transferred from District No. 3 to District No. 2, and the Institutes of Athabasca and Meanook were transferred from District No. 1 to District No. 2. In this way it was thought to better equalize the work of the Directors.

Another sign of real progress during the year was the very creditable exhibit that the A. W. I. sent to the Women's Institute Exhibit at the C. N. E., at Toronto, last August. Our thanks are due to every Institute woman who contributed to that exhibit and to every branch that contributed funds to help bear the expense. We also are most grateful to the Canadian National Railway for taking the exhibit to Toronto free of charge and to the Department of Agriculture for its financial assistance as well as the assistance given in assembling, storing and packing the exhibit, also to Mrs. Rogers and to Miss Macmillan who both put in many hours' work that the attempt might be carried through to a successful issue.

When we consider the short time there was for assembling this exhibit we are quite justified in feeling proud of the result.

We cannot commend too highly the work of our Vice-President, Mrs. Stewart, who, as our representative, had charge of the exhibit in Toronto.

Upon Mrs. Stewart's return from Toronto a meeting of the Executive Committee of the A. W. I. was held in Edmonton when plans were formulated for the assembling of an exhibit, to be sent to Toronto again this year. We trust this exhibit will be even better than our first attempt.

At the Advisory Board meeting following the Convention, arrangements were made for your President to visit some branch Institutes during the year. The work was to be largely confined to Districts No. 2 and 4, as Mrs. Beaubier had visited, and fairly well covered District No. 1 the year previous.

The first Institute visited was Athabasca. As this visit was undertaken during the second week of July, and Mr. Huyck found it impossible to get away from the farm for a few days, the trip was made by motor. The tour could be covered more quickly by motor than by train. Just before leaving home we were advised by Mr. Stevens, Field Crop Commissioner, who had just returned from Athabasca, to take the old "Athabasca Trail" instead of going to the towns, as the Provincal Highway was under construction on that road, which meant many detours and heavy grades.

It was well we accepted the advice, but I truly think I could write a real story about that motor trip. I shall not burden you with that story just now, but suffice it to say, I have regretted many times that I did not count just how many bends

and zig-zags there are in that "old trail." It would have been such an excellent practice in rapid calculation. I much doubt if I could have kept it up for I was so often wondering just which the car was going to hit (for I was convinced it must hit one of the two) that charred and blackened tree, which had fallen so dangerously near the trail on the right, or that telegraph pole which stood on the very edge of that deep cut trail on the left. However, we always managed to scrape in between the two and there were no mishaps.

Upon reaching Athabasca and standing, for the first time, upon the Arctic Slope, where the rivers flow "down north," I felt that I was truly in the north country, but that opinion was soon changed when residents told me that Athabasca was only on the fringe of the north, but if we kept on going until we reached Fort Chipewyan we might then consider we were entering the north country. Thus do we realize to some extent the vastness of our wonderful heritage.

At a meeting of the W. I. the day following, I found that while the Athabasca Institute is not in an organized constituency and is therefore not as closely in touch with the provincial organization as it otherwise would be, still it is doing a very worth-while work, especially along lines of Public Health and Education.

The day following was spent in Colinton to learn if there was a possibility of organizing a branch there. Owing to many of the women being out with a Boy Scout camp not much could be accomplished. However, I feel that a branch will eventually be organized there and will fill a great need in the rural community life of that district.

A visit to Meanook W. I. brought this week's work to a close. The little hamlet of Meanook is beautifully situated in the centre of a natural park in the valley of the Tawatinaw. Here the annual community picnic was being held and it was here that I addressed the Meanook Women's Institute, a splendid gathering of interested women. Like Athabasca, the Meanook Institute is not well linked up with the Provincial organization, but their meetings give opportunity for social intercourse in that rather sparsely settled district and some educational work is being undertaken.

During September, in company with Mrs. Gates, a very representative Constituency Conference was attended at Kitscoty. From Kitscoty we journeyed to Vermilion where we re-organized a branch of the W. I. This branch is now fully organized with all the chairmen of Standing Committees and is doing splendid work.

A visit to Manville was planned, but owing to illness in the district and very busy season, it was found impossible to convene a meeting.

Vegreville was next visited, where another constituency conference was held. The work of standing committees is very well carried out, throughout this whole district and while there were some discouragements as a result of some of the small towns suffering from over-organization, still one could not but realize that in each and every place the W. I. was a real factor in the community life.

In October the Conference at Buffalo was attended, in company with Mrs. Lynch-Staunton. A very cold and stormy day made a representative meeting impossible, but besides the local institute, one other branch, i.e., Cavendish, was 100% represented. It was therefore found unnecessary to visit Cavendish Institute as had been planned. On this tour I was also able to visit branches at Bindloss, Social Plains and Cluny.

Although some of the Institutes visited were depleted in numbers, owing to many having removed from the respective districts, yet the work of the standing committees was being well carried out and the same spirit of service which permeates the whole organization was well depicted in these individual branches.

Rejoining Mrs. Lynch-Staunton in Calgary, I attended the Constituency Conference held in that city. As one listened to the various reports and discussions at this conference the truth of the statement "that the Women's Institute is really a school for women" was fully realized.

On the return trip from Calgary the Institute at Mirror was visited, where was found another group of splendid women working for home and country.

It was my privilege and pleasure to attend and to address the Southern District Conference at Lethbridge. This conference was well attended and from the opening session which took the form of a conveners' meetings until the end of the two days' conference, keen interest was manifest. It was very evident that the women of the Southern District get a great deal of inspiration as well as very worth-while information at this annual conference. Travelling south and west from Lethbridge, Spring Coulee, Cardston and Aetna were visited, and while some of these branches are not strong numerically they are working with the same aims

and ideals for their inspiration as is found in the larger branches. A few branches and a Girls' Club in my home district were also visited during the year.

To say that this part of the work gave me a great deal of pleasure and inspiration does not in any degree express the appreciation I feel for the opportunity of meeting the various women of our organization in their home environment. We are all apt to be enthusiastic at conventions, but it is the enthusiasm, the vision and the interest that we display in our own home branch that makes possible the accomplishment of something worth while.

In every district visited I found women alert enough to see their responsibilities and courageous enough to meet them; women with a true sense of hospitality and a keen desire to serve to the best of their ability.

For the many courtesies extended to me I am most grateful, knowing full well they were not personal but were courtesies extended to the President of the Alberta Women's Institute. I wish also to express my gratitude to the Advisory Board who made it possible for me to do this phase of the work.

From many branches and individuals have come letters of enquiry regarding the work. I have endeavoured to answer them all to the best of my ability and knowledge and sincerely hope none have been overlooked.

As your representative I attended the meeting of the Laws Committee when they waited upon the Provincial Cabinet in January. Through some misunderstanding our Convener of Legislation did not receive notice of this meeting and therefore was not present.

I also took the place of our Convener of Public Health at one of the meetings of the appointed Provincial Health Committee when through illness in her home she was unable to attend.

The U. F. W. A. extended to our organization the courtesy of inviting us to bring greetings to their convention which was held in Calgary.

Mrs. Price, our Publicity Convener, kindly consented to accept this duty. Thus greetings from this organization were very capably presented to the U. F. W. A. Convention.

Through one of our members, Mrs. Scott, of Kinsella, who visited her old home in Scotland during the winter, this organization was able to send personal greetings to the Women's Rural Institutes of Scotland. Here is a portion of the message received in return:

To all of you then, "God speed," "Lang may yer lum reek," that is—may you never lack a good fire to send its smoke up; in other words, long life and prosperity to the Alberta Women's Institutes.

From Miss Macmillan's office I receive information that there are at present some 280 Institutes in the province. I have received reports from only 241, which means that one-sixth of the branches are not reporting to the President. Official delegate, find out upon your return home if your branch is one that is not reporting, and just here I wish to say I am most grateful to Miss Macmillan and her staff for their assistance and kindness and courtesy during the year.

This brief resume of activities during the year does not in the least give an adequate idea of all the progress made but I have studiously tried to avoid overlapping or infringing on the rights of District Directors or Conveners of Standing Committees.

In the Women's Institute work we do not aim to do spectacular things but we do wish to progress steadily year by year. For especial effort during the coming year I would recommend—

1. That each Institute Branch co-operate with organizations which are at work bringing new settlers into Canada. Alberta needs more people. We may not altogether agree with the present immigration policy but nevertheless new settlers are arriving and will continue to come. Extend to them the right hand of friendship, continue to show your interest in their welfare and endeavor to interest them in your community life. Our organization can be of especial help to the women who are coming to make their homes in our midst.

2. That we give every possible assistance to the Federal and Provincial Health Departments in their educational work along lines of public health.

As well as being an economic question, health means happiness. When sickness enters at the back door happiness walks out of the front.

These are my two recommendations but there is much scope for activity along other lines, many avenues of work open up before us, but above all we must have loyalty and support for our own organization, for only by supporting our own can we remain a united band of women working for the benefit and good of mankind.

And it is the silver of self-giving and self-forgetting love thrown into the

melting pot of the world that continually saves the world from harshness and hardness and gives it sweetness and music.

Respectfully submitted,
MABEL HUYCK,
President.

REPORT OF DISTRICT NO. 1

Mrs. James Boyd, Vanrena

Madam President and Ladies:

Once more I have the privilege of presenting the report of District Number 1.

To get to the Convention a number of us have had to travel 600 miles from the land where the rivers flow down north. Now I never miss an opportunity of "boosting" the country and I know it will interest all the women in the country to hear that we had a fine crop of wheat last year and that ours was the only large district in the west where 100% of the threshing was done in the proper season.

While adversity may be a very fine character builder, a fair measure of prosperity makes a place much pleasanter to live in and the feeling of optimism and good cheer among people extends to the organizations also.

It is impossible in a report of this kind to note all that has been done, or to tell what the Women's Institute really means to the women, to the homes and to the districts. A review of the reports sent in from the branches shows that wherever there is need for help our women are quick to see and prompt to act.

We have in District No. 1 the most northerly Institute in Canada at Fort McMurray. Their report shows that the work goes steadily on, a blessing to the community, always ready to help those in need of help. The children have a long walk to school and they are provided with hot drinks for lunch by the Women's Institute, who also have a Christmas tree for the children. Donations have been sent to the Salvation Army and to the local hospital, native families have been assisted and reading matter has been shipped to the trappers in the far north, a great boon to them.

Peace River Constituency, Mrs. H. H. Smith, Convener, has five branches. One new branch, Ering Lodge, was organized in January and is composed of a very fine group of women, who will appreciate the advantages to be derived from Institute work. They have 15 members. The town of Peace River has a splendid branch, one that is active in relief work or any other undertakings for the benefit of the community. They have interesting programs including papers on legislation, demonstration in rug making and a millinery demonstration short course.

Fairview Branch, located at Waterhole, devotes its energies mainly to hospital work. The Cottage Hospital was established by them one and one-half years ago and is now altogether paid for, both building and equipment. To add to the efficiency of the hospital, a Rochester sterilizer was purchased, a porch built and other small improvements made. As the accommodation is still inadequate, an addition is to be built this summer. The Municipal Council has voted money to instal an X-ray machine. I want to take this opportunity of thanking the members of the Harmattan Branch for their kindness in subscribing for the three Curtis publications for the benefit of this hospital. This is much appreciated.

Grouard Constituency, with Mrs. Butler, Convener, has two branches, McLennan and High Prairie, both good active branches. Much interest is taken in the Peace River Musical Festival, each branch donating a silver medal. High Prairie has voted $50.00 towards beautifying the cemetery. McLennan is building a community hall as at present the school room is being used for all kinds of meetings. This branch has done wonderful things as an organized body of women for the advancement of education in their town.

The Grande Prairie Constituency, with Mrs. Clubine, of Wembley, Convener, has eight branches; Grande Prairie, Lower Beaver Lodge, Flying Shot, Red Willow, Sexsmith, Wembley, Hermit Lake and Scenic Heights. Each branch has done good work in its own community. All have assisted with local affairs such as picnics, sports, concerts and Christmas trees. Money has been raised in various ways, by bazaars, concerts, carnivals, whist drives, dances and socials and spent in giving help where needed, the schools and hospitals particularly having benefited. Instructive papers on many subjects were prepared and read by the members, also demonstration. A demonstration in basketry was given at Wembley by members who had attended the classes at Grande Prairie. Although Grande Prairie is a new branch already splendid work has been done.

The Constituency Conferences were well attended and very helpful and interesting. Miss Macmillan was an unexpected but very welcome visitor at the Grande Prairie Conference. We should be delighted to have such surprises happen oftener. A very pleasant memory is the visit paid to the Beaver Lodge Experimental Farm and the courtesy of Mr. Albright.

I find that more interest than ever before has been taken in Legislation and nearly all branches have had papers and discussions on "The Community Property Act" and "The legal status of women in Alberta."

The work of the demonstrators is much appreciated and is eagerly looked forward to this year. The Alberta Pantry at the Canadian National Exhibition also created a great deal of interest and very proud are we of the notice our Peace River fruits received in the Eastern papers. They seemed surprised to know that fruit grows there, and seldom have we had such a good chance of favorable publicity. We are also proud of the fact that one of our Peace River members was the A. W. I. member in charge of the exhibit.

In spite of the fact that one or two of the branches are inactive, mainly on account of the leaders being away, I think I am justified in saying that our work has never been in a more flourishing condition.

MARGARET BOYD, Director.

REPORT OF DISTRICT NO. 2

Mrs. C. A. Gates, Stony Plain, Director

Madam President and Ladies:

At the Advisory Board meeting after the Convention in 1925, it was decided to add the constituencies of Leduc, Camrose and Wainwright to District No. 2, thus relieving No. 3 and Athabasca Constituency from No. 1 to No. 2 as it is more accessible from Edmonton. This year I decided to give a briefer report, realizing amongst other things, the cost of production of the annual report.

It is with pleasure I have to report the best year in work accomplished, new branches formed and increased membership. Numerous calls have come from isolated districts asking how to form a Women's Institute. All branches have had good programs. Eight new branches have been formed and two more will be organized in the near future. Most locals show increased membership and certainly increased interest in the work our Institute stands for. In the enlarged No. 2 District there are 54 Institutes with an approximate membership of 1,330 and four Girls' Clubs. Three branches have disbanded through local conditions. Newcomers have been royally welcomed by the various Institutes and this neighborliness has been greatly appreciated. The response for exhibits to the "Alberta Pantry" at the Toronto Exhibition was good. Important projects are being undertaken by branches, such as building and equipping community halls, rest rooms, purchasing pianos, furnishing hospital wards, relief work, providing school ground equipment, visiting sick and all the usual activities, which are legion. All this entails much labor and energy to obtain the necessary funds to carry out these projects. Added impetus for carrying on the work is the result of the Conveners visiting their various branches.

With few exceptions, good weather prevailed at the Constituency Conferences. Large numbers attended and enthusiasm was the key note. Except Pembina, Leduc and Stony Plain, all had two or more sessions, thus giving ample time for discussions after reports, the value of which is shown in the better work done during the current year. The points with one long session had well arranged programs. For the most part the Conferences were held in remote rural districts and in some cases with only a small local membership, but at each remarkable hospitality was shown, a fact much appreciated by the delegates. Entertainment by local talent featured all meetings and was greatly enjoyed.

Edson Constituency Conference, Mrs. M. A. Upcott, Haddock, Convener, was held at Jasper with delegates from all the branches. All branches showed increased membership; two new ones were formed and one re-organized, making a total of seven branches. Miss Macmillian was present and gave a humorous as well as instructive address on "Music and Poetry." 55 delegates enjoyed the discussions of these helpful sessions. Jasper generously took the delegates on trips to points of interest. This branch started two years ago, has 80 members and held a W. I. Fair last year. Another branch was the means of bringing a public health nurse to the community. Edson, our oldest branch in the constituency, is doing excellent work on practical lines, such as holding nursing demonstrations, also paying $20 per month for medical services for an indigent patient in hospital as well as making

substantial contributions to "Sunshine." All branches in the Constituency are doing splendid community work.

Alexandra and Vermilion Constituency Conference, Mrs. G. A. Elgie, Minburn, Convener, was held at Kitscoty, delegates from each of the four branches attending, making a total of 37 present. Vermilion is re-organized. Mrs. Huyck, our President, gave a splendid address. Instruction on the work was given at the two sessions, also reports on child welfare. Branch reports showed interest and progress in community needs. Two Institutes are making dresses and mattresses for the Children's Wards and others are improving their rest rooms, and obtaining funds for the upkeep of same. This delightful Conference closed with a social gathering at the home of one of the members.

Vegreville Constituency Conference, Mrs. Odell, Convener, Vegreville, was held at Vegreville with 40 delegates in attendance from the three branches. Mrs. Huyck's presence added much to the success of the Conference. Reports showed Institutes working well and making progress. One branch has a library of 475 books in their rest room. Another raised $614 to build a Community Hall. Another does considerable relief work and helps with the library. Meetings are educative and enjoyable.

Lac Ste. Anne Constituency Conference, Mrs. A. Weber, Mayerthorpe, Convener, was held at Mayerthorpe with 50 present from six out of eight branches. Trails were not good for cross country driving so Magnolia W. I. attended the Stony Plain Conference. The explanation of the work of the standing committees is now showing results. Miss Macmillan was present and gave valuable help. A banquet was provided and an enjoyable social evening spent. The Convener has visited all branches and done excellent work. Two Institutes have warmly welcomed new settlers. One added a kitchen to the rest room, others are raising funds for a rest room, helping to equip girl guides and doing relief work.

Pembina Constituency, Mrs. G. A. Silvester, of Mid-Pembina, Convener, was held at Pickardville with an enthusiastic gathering of 60 members and delegates from five branches. Seven cars from Westlock added their quota. Branch reports as well as reports from all conveners were given. The broader educational work of the various departments was explained by the director and discussion followed. There are six branches in the Constituency. Some have small membership but all are active workers. The result of their enthusiasm is the carrying out of ambitious projects such as building and equipping community halls and providing instruments for an orchestra. Baby clinics were held at three of the branches, when 47 babies were examined. One branch presented a large silk flag to the new six-roomed school, gave funds for school ground equipment as well as engaged in relief work. A banquet was served at the Conference.

Stony Plain Constituency Conference, Mrs. W. C. Short, Woodbend W. I., Convener, was held at Winterburn with 37 delegates from the four branches, and a Girls' Club in attendance. Reports from the branches were received and discussions followed. The Girls' Club is working to send 14 girls to the Jasper Convention. An excellent report on Legislation was given. The resolution of last year was again passed asking for more medical help for the rural districts. Miss Helen Brown, of Detroit, gave four readings, and lunch and tea were served. There are five branches with a membership of 106. Two rural districts have asked for Institutes. Miss Macmillan added to the enjoyment by her fine address. An increase in membership is shown in two branches. One Institute invited teachers and parents from four schools to discuss their educational problems. Another had a horticultural show and presented a Union Jack to the new High School; two others sold poppies. On two occasions these Institutes visited, one taking the form of a picnic to the lake when members were present from three Institutes.

Edmonton, Victoria and Sturgeon Constituency Conference, Mrs. J. Macgregor Smith, Edmonton, Convener, was held in Edmonton. Unfortunately the weather prevented representatives from many of the outlying districts from attending; only two out of seven branches were represented. Increased membership is shown with one new branch formed and one disbanded. Reports were read from six branches and from Conveners of Standing Committees, and from the Girls' Comrades' Club. Two conveners of standing committees were added, Industries and League of Nations. Among the activities of the branches were a miscellaneous shower for an English bride, the presentation of a Union Jack to an auto camp, a prize of $25.00 for the best W. I. Exhibit at the Edmonton Fair, prizes to school fairs and presents to oldest members. In 1926 the Stony Plain Constituency Conference will join with Edmonton in order to increase interest.

Leduc Constituency Conference, Mrs. Lindberg, Leduc, Convener, was held at Conjuring Creek with 70 delegates from the three branches. Last month a new

branch was added. An enthusiastic session was held with a good program of exceptionally fine reports of the conveners of all departments and the branches as well as a Girls' Club. The Director led discussions on W. I. work. One branch reported paying for a piano for the new community hall in five months, another gave $84 to the Red Cross. A banquet was served at the close of the conference.

Camrose Constituency Conference, Mrs. John Mavor, Daysland, Convener, was held at Bashaw, with delegates from three branches. Owing to bad roads the Convener as well as Miss Noble and the other Daysland delegates were unable to be present. Mrs. Scott, of Bashaw, kindly took the chair. Reports were given by the three branches present and from the Constituency Chairman of Agriculture, Home Economics and Agriculture. Interesting discussions followed each report. There are six branches with 146 members. The Mayor and Secretary of the Board of Trade brought greetings and stayed for the afternoon. They expressed themselves as surprised at the comprehensive programme of the W. I. organization. Solos and readings added enjoyment to the proceedings. At the afternoon session 37 were present. Miss Macmillan and Mrs. Gates both gave addresses. Better work is shown in the work of most of the standing committees. One Institute is encouraging the girls in household economics; another does special work along agricultural lines, planting trees and shrubs; another is building a new road to the cemetery. School Fairs have been helped, new comers have been welcomed and Red Cross nursing courses taken up. A turkey supper was served and a very enthusiastic conference held.

Wainwright Constituency Conference, Mrs. Matt. McCrea, Ribstone, Convener, was held at Wainwright with 90 present from the four branches and a Girls' Club. There is one new branch and increased membership. Valuable work is being done in assisting the Red Cross, the Salvation Army and other worthy causes. An excellent banquet was served and in the evening the Girls' Club gave a play with credit to themselves.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Conveners for visiting branches and for arranging the programs for the conferences.

Respectfully submitted,
C. A. GATES, Director.

REPORT OF DISTRICT NO. 3

Mrs. H. G. Montgomery, Wetaskiwin, Convener

Madam President and Fellow Members of the A.W.I.:

I come before you today to present my first report as Director of District No. 3.

I have always been much interested and have held the Women's Institutes in high esteem—but when at different times I have heard our Provincial Officers say that if you wanted something you thought impossible accomplished, to give it to a Women's Institute and they would overcome it, I really thought they were complimentary to the point of flattery. I found I was mistaken.

My visits to the 15 conferences last fall were both an inspiration and an education, and if I reported everything worth reporting, I would be here all day.

I cannot attempt to mention individual Institutes, nor yet in many instances constituencies. Many are doing the same things, only in different ways, so I have attempted to group them under different headings, thus saving time.

We are all anxious our own localities should receive their merited praise, but it would be unending, so I hope you will consider this and be lenient with me.

It is not so much reporting the things that have been done, as putting them forth as suggestions for what others may do.

Before settling down to our report there are a few things I would like to mention. Perhaps the Constituency Conference is the place for this, but I am afraid of being like the minister who reprimanded his congregation for its poor attendance at church. The ones who needed it were not there, and the ones who were there did not need it. As I expect nearly every Women's Institute in the District has a delegate here, I am going to say it now.

Please make a great effort to attend your Constituency Conference. If, as in several cases last year, the roads are almost impassable, do send your report and state your membership. Should you be prevented from doing this, why not call up your Convener and give her the main items, so she may report them? It is surely worth the price of a telephone message, and acts like a letter of regret. We know that you want to be with us anyway.

It is getting to be a matter of pride for a Convener to be able to say that all our Institutes have paid their Provincial and Constituency funds. This, of course, is gratifying and let us see if we cannot make it 100% next year.

One poor Convener reports that only one Institute has paid its Constituency fund. I am afraid she will have to wish for the wings of a dove if she wants to visit her Institutes. On the other hand another constituency, with no more Institutes, reports enough in their fund to pay the way of a Provincial officer to visit each Institute in their Constituency. What a fine thing this is! While the Conference is visited each year by your Director, and a few are fortunate enough to enjoy a visit from our President, how nice it would be if we could afford to have one from our Vice-President, or Secretary, or anyone we might desire to invite!

One Constituency sent a gift of $4.50 to the Provincial fund; while another sent $5.00 as a birthday gift.

The Convenors have difficulty in some instances getting their Institutes to pay their Provincial funds, saying that they have written repeatedly to these, and their dues still remain unpaid.

We are glad to report the organization of nine new Institutes—Coronation Constituency, Silver Heights, Lacombe-Ponoka, Centre Valley and Brooksley. Red Deer and Innisfail West, Sylvan Lake, Rocky Mountain House and Balmoral, Didsbury West, Cremona and Siebertville, Cochrane, Glendale.

The Institute programs are varied and interesting. Papers on the life of Queen Victoria, Pauline Johnson, Dr. Drummond, The Marriage Customs of Other Lands, and Christmas and What it Means, are a few of the topics.

Many respond to the roll call with quotations, etc., some offering prizes for the best answers.

At least one edits a column in a weekly paper.

Nearly all report having taken up some phase of the work of the Standing Committees. Education and Better Schools has received a great deal of attention. School debates, for which medals have been given, essay contests, spelling contests, which I am told have greatly improved the students' ability to spell, contests in oratory, addresses by school inspectors have been held. Some try by co-operation with their theatre managers to improve the Movies. These have all been means used to aid in bettering conditions. Pictures, libraries, lantern and slides and school ground equipment have been given, while one Institute engaged a capable teacher for half an hour twice a week to instruct the children in music. Many have helped the school fairs by offering prizes and serving lunches. One reports serving free ice cream. Another offered a prize to girls for the best dress made from flour sacks, and one to boys for the best article of furniture made from a packing case. The winner of the latter made an attractive magazine stand from a banana crate.

In another District, where there was no Sunday School, or possibility of one, the teacher taught the Sunday School lesson on Friday after four. This seemed popular in that District. Others have held a presentation of diplomas, having special programs and speakers.

Hospital work has played a large part in the activities of the Child Welfare and Public Health of the district. One Institute owns the building occupied by the Hospital, and has this year built an addition, also cistern. It was also instrumental in having the school children vaccinated for smallpox, and immunized for scarlet fever and diphtheria, procuring the serum free from the Department of Public Health, and enlisting the services of the local Doctor who administered it free of charge.

Many helped their hospitals by gifts of bedding, linens, dishes and books, and by doing the mending. Baby clinics are held, and one Branch is planning a goitre clinic. A wheel chair was purchased for a very small boy who had lost both father and mother, while two Institutes have sent a woman and girl to hospitals for operations, paying their expenses.

First Aid kits have been placed in schools.

Several Conferences and individual Institutes have had lectures on tuberculosis from Dr. Baker from the Keith Sanitarium; on mental hygiene by Dr. McAllister, of the Mental Hospital, Red Deer; and preventive medicine by Dr. Jenkins, of the Department of Public Health, as well as addresses on other topics of health by local doctors.

Agriculture has come in for its share of attention. A study has been made of the raising of garden seeds, small fruits, dahlias, house plants and bulbs.

One Institute held a clean-up campaign, enlisting the help of the men, and serving dinner to them. Another pays a bounty on crows' feet, crows' eggs and gopher tails. Another held a flower and vegetable contest, while a number have planted trees, erected fences and cleaned up their cemeteries, planting vines and

perennials there. One Institute bought a tombstone to mark a friend's last resting place.

In the Household Science Department many demonstrations have been given. Two conferences, and a number of individual Branches have had demonstrations of the fireless cooker. Demonstrations in the making of rugs, pastry, lemon pie, shortbread, doughnuts, quick desserts, beadwork, tailored pockets, thumbs in mittens and dust mops from old stockings were also given.

The lawyers and M.L.A.'s. have been called on to explain legislation, while many branches have made a study of different acts by themselves.

Flag poles have been erected and dedicated. New settlers have been welcomed and made to feel at home. Some have had their gardens made for them, and a meal cooked, while others have been sent hampers.

Women's Institute husbands put in a sick neighbour's crop, the women serving lunch and taking turns in the housework.

Baseball, basketball, bands and rinks have all been helped.

Good times have not been forgotten. The grandmothers have been entertained, and each presented with carnations. The husbands and families have been entertained to a chicken dinner; the bachelors have been given a dinner and dance; and a visiting Institute has been entertained at an old time social, a prize being offered for the best costume, the winning costume being 85 years old.

Departing members have been honored with gifts. The brides have received showers of gifts, while the babies have been recipients of silver spoons, cups and crib blankets. Several Institutes sent Christmas Greetings to members who have moved away, thus showing them they are not forgotten.

Bazaars, food and plant sales, cup sales, chicken dinners, concerts and plays, exhibiting at fairs, and turning the prize money to the Institute, are other activities. The talent system, with the prize given to the one making the most, vanishing teas, and serving dinners during grain hauling time, are all means employed to raise funds.

The building and up-keep of Community Hall, club rooms, libraries, rest-rooms, and the purchase of pianos and organs are among the things undertaken and accomplished by our women.

At the close of the Sedgwick Constituency Conference, the first I visited, a pleasing ceremony took place, when our President was called to the platform to receive a gavel from her home Institute, over which, I believe, she has presided for many years. The women thus showed their love for her, and their joy at her elevation to the highest office our organization affords.

I feel I cannot bring this report to a close without mentioning the Hand Hills Constituency Conference. We have a number of well organized constituencies in our district, but I am sure you will forgive me for naming the above, for I understand they were almost, if not the first, to have a Constituency organization, so why should we not look to them as to an older sister? They had a fine conference, and I feel sure their contests helped to make it so. Some time previous they gave each Branch the name of a Canadian artist whose life they studied, and whose pictures they made an effort to secure. An exhibit of these pictures, ranging from beautiful oil paintings to ordinary prints, clipped from magazines, was shown, while a very interesting paper on Canadian artists was given at the Conference. Prizes were awarded, the best W.I. yearly program, the best school lunch and the best plan of farm home.

An exhibit of hats made at the millinery short courses was also made, and found very interesting.

I began this report by commenting on the ability of the Women's Institute to accomplish the seemingly impossible, and think to end it by telling you of the little Institute of 15 members who live nearly as many miles from town. They drove in, many of them leaving threshers at home, and unassisted, entertained a Conference of nearly 100, providing a delicious chicken dinner.

ADELAIDE MONTGOMERY,
Director.

REPORT OF DISTRICT NO. 4

Mrs. C. Lynch Staunton, Lundbreck, Director

Madam President and Ladies of the Alberta Women's Institutes:

At our last Annual Convention and Election of Officers I had the honor to be returned as Director of District No. 4 of the Alberta Women's Institutes, for

which I thank the members of this District and trust that the second year of office may be as satisfactory as has been this present year.

It was my pleasure and privilege to attend the Constituency Conferences of last Fall, and although we encountered very bad weather and indifferently bad roads, on every occasion they were wonderfully successful.

At the Conference of the Pincher Creek and Rocky Mountain Constituencies we had the honor of having an address by the Hon. Mrs. Parlby on the proposed Community Property Bill, when Mrs. Parlby gave a very clear and impartial presentation of the bill enabling us to receive a clear understanding from all points of view. There was an attendance of 111 at this conference, the constituency membership being 175. Mrs. Gavin Hamilton, Beaver Mines, is Convener. The branches are: Ashvale, Beaver Mines, Coleman, Cowley, Lundbreck, Pincher Creek, Hillsborough, and we welcome the new Institute at Twin Butte.

Mrs. Hamilton is also Secretary-treasurer of District No. 4.

The branches of the Cardston Constituency seemed to be interested chiefly in the Extension Courses received from the Home Bureau Service. The roads were very bad at the time of the Conference which reduced the attendance to 45. The Constituency membership is about 165, the branches are:

Cardston, Magrath, Mountain View, Del Bonita, Etna, Greenfield, Lens, Spring Coulee.

Mrs. H. Taylor, Magrath, is convener.

At the Conference of the Warner Constituency they had two notable speakers, Dr. Jenkins, Edmonton, on Contagious Diseases, and Mr. Paris, of the Lethbridge Experimental Farm, on tree-growing. The attendance at the Conference was 175. The Constituency membership is 178.

The branches are: Milk River, New Dayton, Wide Awake, Sunshine, Warner, United Prairie, and the new Institute of Hope. There are four flourishing Girls' Clubs: Warner, New Dayton, Milk River and Coutts.

The Convener is Mrs. R. W. Risinger, New Dayton.

The Taber Constituency have always laid great stress on Child Welfare, "Every Home a Health Centre" being their slogan. Their Baby Clinics have been very successful, also their Dental Clinics. The Conference was held at Grassy Lake, the attendance being about 100, with a Constituency membership of 198.

The branches are: Burdett, Grassy Lake, Taber, Ever Ready, Coaldale, Raymond, Barnwell, with Girls' Clubs at Burdett and Grassy Lake. The Convener is Mrs. J. Powelson, Raymond.

The Conference of the Claresholm and Macleod Constituencies was held at the Agricultural College, Claresholm. Unfortunately it was a very stormy day so we were disappointed in our sight-seeing tour of the beautiful grounds of the college, but on the cordial invitation of the principal the conference will be held there again this year when we hope for more auspicious weather. The Constituency membership is 152. The branches are: Granum, Macleod, Starline. The Girls' Clubs: Starline, Macleod, Granum. Garden Prairie Institute and Girls' Club were organized by this Constituency but found to be located in another constituency. The Convener is Mrs. J. B. Sutherland, Macleod.

The Conference of the Redcliff Constituency was held at Buffalo. Again the weather and the roads were very bad, nevertheless the spirit of the conference was wonderful, as was the hot dinner of fried chicken that was served. They were honored by the presence of the Provincial President, Mrs. Huyck, who gave a very inspiring address. The attendance was 73, the constituency membership being 87. The branches are:

Bindloss, Cavendish, Social Plains, Buffalo and Suffield.

Mrs. Geo. Robson, Bindloss, is Convener.

The Bow Valley Constituency Conference was held at Brooks. Here they are doing much work in the Immigration and Canadianization committees and assisting their schools. The attendance at the Conference was 85. The Constituency membership is 188.

The branches are: Brooks, Gem, Millicent, Bassano, Duchess, Chancellor and Patricia, the Duchess Girls' Club, and Bassano.

Mrs. A. A. Campbell, Patricia, is Convener.

The Conference of Calgary and Okotoks Constituencies was held at Calgary. The weather again interfered. Good work was reported at this conference along the lines of the Standing Committees and Courses received from the Home Bureau Service. This conference was also honored by the presence of the Provincial President. The constituency membership is about 175.

The branches are: Calgary, Dinton, Aldersyde, and we welcome the new Institutes, Glengarry and Hand-in-Hand. Also the Dinton Girls' Club and the new Girls' Club at Calgary.

Mrs. G. Garrad, Calgary, is Convener.

The Conference of High River and Little Bow Constituencies was held at Vulcan. This was one conference which had to be postponed on account of the weather, nevertheless it was one of the best conferences of the year. At this conference every Standing Committee was reported. The members were pleased to honor their Convenor with a token of their appreciation of her faithful and devoted services. This is the largest constituency of the District in number of Institutes and in membership, the latter being 344. During the year there was $3,489.00 raised by the twelve Institutes. The branches are:

Vulcan, Garden Prairie, Barons, Champion, Eastway, Carmangay, Kirkcaldy, Good Deeds, Redland View, Brant, Reid Hill, Golden Rule, and the Girls' Clubs, Good Deeds, Garden Prairie and Barons.

The Convener is Mrs. Alcock, Champion.

The Gleichen Conference which was to have been held at Queenstown, had to be indefinitely postponed on account of roads and weather. I regretted this very much indeed as I see at each and every one of these conferences what an inspiration they can be. In listening to reports from other branches we realize the necessity and the advantages to be derived from sending in the reports from our branch regularly and faithfully every month. I was glad to receive the report at the District Conference in regard to the memorial at Blackfoot Crossing and to hear that the Gleichen Constituency has a fund on hand to be applied to this worthy purpose.

The Constituency membership is about 250. The branches are:

Strathmore, Cluny, Gleichen, Langdon, Nightingale, Queenstown, Standard, and we welcome the new Institute Shouldice. Also the Girls' Club at Langdon.

Mrs. F. G. Fulton, Langdon, is Convener.

The Medicine Hat Constituency Conference had also to be postponed as the Convener, Mrs. Bellamy was in the East assisting with the Alberta Exhibit at the Canadian National Exhibition. It was also a most successful conference, with most of the Standing Committees reported. The Medicine Hat Institute has established a Women's Exchange in that city, which is proving very successful. The constituency membership is 176.

The branches are: Medicine Hat, Walsh, Irvine, Bow Island, Manyberries, Etzikom, Southern Prairie, Orion, and the Girls' Club at Manyberries.

Mrs. B. Bellamy, Medicine Hat, is Convener.

I am pleased to report that at every conference it was evident that the convener had made a sincere and determined effort to have every Standing Committee reported. There were amazingly splendid reports, and if some failures, why no doubt, there have been difficulties in the way that could not be surmounted. But I am hoping for absolutely perfect conferences this coming fall, that every Constituency Chairman of a Standing Committee will report on her subject, and if she cannot be present at the conference, that she will see that her report is in the hands of the Constituency Convener.

In reporting our District Conference which was held at Lethbridge on the 10th and 11th of March of this year, I may first of all tell you how my heart was simply filled to overflowing with joy at the generous and loyal response I received from all whose services I asked, and that this splendid support and co-operation tended to make our District Conference the success it was. To my request for ten-minute papers on each of the Standing Committees, I may proudly proclaim that not one on whom I was depending failed either to have her paper with her there at the conference or to send it in to be read. Are we not attaining the ideal of organization for which we are striving?

We were honored by having our Provincial President, Mrs. Huyck, present, and receiving from her a splendid address. Also our past President, Mrs. Beaubier. Miss Noble, Provincial Supervisor of Girls' Clubs was with us and spoke of the coming Convention of the Girls' Clubs at Jasper Park. The Girls were delighted to have Miss Noble visit them at their Clubs this spring. We all regretted that she was obliged to return home on account of illness.

Miss Macmillan gave us a beautiful address on Service to others.

The subject of Child Welfare was most interestingly dealt with by Miss Tilley of the Lethbridge Nursing Mission.

Mrs. Sanson, Queenstown, gave a splendid paper on Education and Better Schools.

Mrs. Fulton, Walsh, was not able to be present but sent in an excellent paper on Legislation. Mrs. R. W. Thompson, Spring Coulee, was not able to be present on account of the serious illness of her sister, but sent in a splendid paper on Immigration.

Household Economics was in the capable hands of Mrs. Holdershaw, Manyberries, who has prepared a wonderful display on this subject.

Mrs. F. Laing, Granum, gave us a splendid paper on Agriculture.

Mrs. Stanley Graham, Warner, handled Canadianization most excellently. It is with deep regret that I report the passing away of Mrs. Graham on the 15th of this month.

Mrs. Price, Calgary, Provincial Publicity Convener, spoke of the organizing of the Women's Institutes, giving us a vivid pen-picture of Miss Annie Stuart, Grand Pre, Nova Scotia, who is National President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada.

All of these papers have been turned over to Miss Macmillan to be placed on the files of the Home Bureau Service, so at any time you may obtain these most excellent papers for use in your Institutes, and I highly recommend them to you.

A particularly interesting feature of the District Conference was the exhibit of Home Industries and Products which was arranged by the Lethbridge Board of Trade, assisted by the cities of Calgary and Medicine Hat, and by the Raymond Sugar Company. The Southern District have pledged themselves to encourage and support the use of Home Products in every way possible, and already I have had requests for information as to where Alberta-made brooms may be obtained.

The Institutes of District No. 4 have also assisted greatly in furthering the work of the tree-planting campaign which has been instituted throughout Southern Alberta this spring, being sponsored particularly by the Lethbridge Northern Irrigation Co. and by the Lethbridge Herald.

At the conclusion of the Conference, an invitation was received by telegram from the Mayor of Medicine Hat to hold our next conference there. This the Conference was pleased to accept. So next year we will meet at Medicine Hat when we hope that those at the extreme eastern part of the District may have the opportunity of attending *en masse*.

I wish to express my thanks to Mrs. Alcock, of Champion, for her courtesy in allowing us the use of her gavel during the conference. I also thank Mrs. Gavin Hamilton, Beaver Mines, for filling the office of District Secretary-treasurer so capably as I thank every member of the Institutes of District No. 4, for their willing and generous support, and I trust this spirit of harmony and good-will may long continue throughout our District.

EMMA LYNCH-STAUNTON,
Director, District No. 4.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CHILD WELFARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Mrs. J. S. Anderson, Jr., Raymond, Convener

I am delighted to submit the report of the work accomplished by the Alberta Women's Institutes, during the past year, in Child-Welfare and Public Health. The reports sent were beyond my expectations.

The plan for the past year was to arouse as much interest among the people as possible by holding public health meetings and getting the interest of as many elements in the community as could be aroused. The second objective was to get the individual woman Institute member to sense the value of making her home a place of health. The number of Institutes carrying the plan was very pleasing.

The Minister of Health sent out a New Year's Message to the women. In this he outlined the work done by the Department of Health and gave a splendid statement of the problems we have to face in Alberta. A copy of this message was mailed to each Institute secretary.

Last November, 1925, the Minister of Health organized a Board of Visitors for Public Institutions. This Board is made up of people interested in health problems. The object of the Board is to visit the provincial hospitals and make recommendations to the Minister from time to time. The Alberta Women's Institutes was represented by your Convener of Child Welfare and Public Health. The following institutions were visited and reported on: The Provincial Sanitarium for Tuberculosis, at Keith; The Mental Training School for Mentally Defective Children, at Red Deer; The Provincial Mental Hospital, Ponoka; The Oliver Mental Hospital, at Oliver. In addition the two Provincial Jails, at Fort Saskatchewan and Lethbridge were also visited.

The work accomplished by this Board of Visitors was put into a report which was submitted to the Alberta Legislature at the session just past. Space will not

permit a resume of that report here except to state that the health conditions of the inmates left nothing to be asked for. The sanitary conditions of the jails were all that could be expected.

The problems presented by these institutions is another thing. Something must be done to prevent the increase of mental and physical deficiency among children. The province is taxed to its utmost capacity to care for its insane. The tubercular situation, especially among the school children needs attention, alhough some accommodation is being provided at Keith Sanitarium to care for a few urgent cases of T. B. among children. The entire insane and mental deficiency problem is crying out for solution. Are we to allow this class of people to go on reproducing themselves? The cost of their keep is a burden to the tax payer.

The Department is doing all it can to handle the situation but already more space is needed.

The work being done by the Institutes is varied in interest and of real value. It covers such activities as Baby Clinics, Dental Clinics, Medical Inspection of School Children; Clinics to Immunize children against diphtheria, scarlet fever, etc.; a Study of Preventive Medicine as applied to the Child; of mental Hygiene; of Defectives; of Goitre and its Antitoxin; Tonsil and Adenoid Clinics; Sick Nursing. The kind that sends a nurse to assist a family; Sick Nursing of Appendicitis; Social Hygiene; First Aid; Teaching Hygiene in Rural Schools; Problems of Social Hygiene; Communicable Diseases; Disease Carriers; distributing health posters and other literature; taking up the Red Cross Health Work in the School, and the Red Cross Home Nursing Course.

They are just beginning to realize the scope of the work to be accomplished. The Baby Clinic was emphasized by two constituencies last year—Taber and Cardston constituencies; in these five hundred and thirty-four babies were examined by the nurse sent out from the Department. Baby Clinics have been held by single Institutes all over the province, and the babies examined have run into the thousands. Lac Saint Anne constituency is making a concerted effort to secure the medical inspection of all rural school children.

One activity that is very new this year is the Clinic for Immunizing against Communicable Disease. The Cereal Women's Institute had all the children in the district under sixteen immunized for smallpox, diphtheria, and scarlet fever. The work was done by the local doctor and the serums were secured from the Department of Health. Two other Institutes report they are going to immunize as soon as they get rid of whooping cough. Another activity that is new is the plan of the Grassy Lake Institute to try out the Nursing Housekeeper idea as it is worked in Saskatchewan.

The Kinniburgh Institute have had a series of epidemics, as whooping cough, measles, chicken pox, and mumps. They are making a concerted effort in their district to have the Public Health Act enforced and are going to immunize against everything that can be prevented as soon as the children are well.

The outstanding problems of our work in this province as indicated by the activities of the Institutes are: First, prevention of disease among children; second, immunizing the child from such disease. Immunizing would suggest the remedy for the contagious disease. Third, the problem of the disease carrier. Fourth, the question of the care and feeding of the baby as is found in the work of the baby clinic. Fifth, the health of the school child. Sixth, the education of the community on the entire matter of health.

An entirely new feature of health work has come up this past year. For a long time we have been discussing our maternity problems. The question of the mother is bound up in that of the baby. Our maternal death rate is too high. What are we going to do about it?

Here is the answer: The Child Welfare Council of Canada is sending out a series of letters to expectant mothers. These letters will contain personal advice to the mother each month as the period of her pregnancy advances. This advice will be given by the best doctors on maternity in Canada. These letters can be had from Miss Clark, superintendent of Nurses, Edmonton. Each mother must register with Miss Clark to become a member of this clinic, for it is a pre-natal clinic. In this clinic we will be able to get at the beginning of our Child Welfare problems. This pre-natal clinic will furnish any Institute with work for the coming year.

Let each Institute specialize on the work their community needs most.

Let each constituency take up a line of health work and specialize on it. In this way we can accomplish the big things that are waiting, and crying out to be done.

As to the work to be done this coming year let our slogan be "Every community healthy; every home a health centre, every woman a health worker."

Choose one of these activities and put it over:
A pre-natal clinic;
A baby clinic;
A clinic to immunize the children from contagious disease.
Do not let up on educating your community in health. Report your work.

There are big things to be done, let us do them. One convener wrote me, "I have been invalided for eighteen months, now that I am better I want to do all I can for health."

We, the public, have been invalided long enough, let us all pull together and put the public on its "health feet."

SARAH E. ANDERSON,
Convener, Child Welfare and Public Health.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND BETTER SCHOOLS

Mrs. W. C. Short, Woodbend, W. I., Convener

Madam Chairman and Members of the Women's Institute:

It is indeed gratifying to feel the genuine interest the women of Alberta are taking in education and better schools.

I received reports from twelve constituencies, also a few from individual branches.

Before proceeding with my report I would like to say a word about reports. In the majority of them they say—"A Paper on Education and Better Schools" was given, followed by a discussion, or "We had a talk on Co-operation between Parents and Teachers," and that is all the information given. Now, for me to report that, is merely a repetition of so many words, as there is not a thought nor statement given as to what these papers or talks contained, and no one is any the wiser. If the principal points brought out were mentioned, also the results of the discussion, we would have something definite to tell in our report.

The work has covered quite a large field as the following summary of reports shows:

Quite a number of Parent-Teacher Associations have been formed, while others are working towards that end.

Prizes have been donated to school fairs, and hot lunches served the children, on School Fair day.

Playground equipment has been installed, also flags given to many schools.

Many branches recommend a woman member of the school board.

One branch has secured the services of a music teacher at a salary of $200.00 per year for their school.

A number of musical instruments have been placed in the schools.

In order to encourage pupils to pass Grades VIII. and IX. public presentations of diplomas have been held in a few places.

Sums of money have been donated for scholarships.

Free dental inspection has been secured in some cases and medical inspection is strongly advocated.

School visiting committees have been appointed.

Picnics and concerts have been arranged for parents and children, thus promoting co-operation and good-fellowship in the district.

Many papers on educational topics have been given. One branch with four schools, reports a meeting where the teachers and the parents were invited, each teacher taking up some phase of school work.

One chose health and stressed the need of medical inspection in rural schools, the necessity of plenty of sleep, good plain wholesome food, and the co-operation of the parents with the teacher in the matter of hygiene.

The second speaker spoke on "The meaning of Education." He said, some parents thought a child's education began when he entered school, and ended when he passed Grade VIII. He stressed the need of constant supervision on the part of the parents, and not to expect too much of the teacher, for he or she could do little with a child who lacked home training.

The playground problem was discussed by the third teacher, who advocated sand piles for the younger children and swings, baseball, football or basketball for the older ones. She thought it best to keep the primary grades away from the older pupils during recreation periods.

The fourth teacher followed with an excellent paper on the "Object of Education." She said education was not only intended to increase the intellectual or mental powers, but was to train physically and spiritually as well, so that a child would be equipped to take its place in the social world about him. It was never intended that the school should take the place of the home, but that each should supplement the other. Good reading, organized games, lofty ideals and service to others, was an excellent standard for any child.

Few have reported any encouragement in the matter of more regular attendance which is of paramount importance in the successful carrying on of our schools. Mr. Gorman, in a paper read before the Trustees' Convention, gave us these figures. The cost per pupil, based upon enrolment is $59.27, but when based on average daily attendance is increased to $81.20 or an increase of one-third, which means we are paying for a great deal of education we do not receive because the pupils are not there to get it.

Now the parents and perhaps more especially the mothers are the people who can remedy the situation. Make it a rule not to keep a child out of school if it is at all possible for him to get there.

Let us strive for more regular attendance in the coming year. According to the latest available reports, last year marks a slight increase; let us try to make the year 1926-27 a banner year. Let our motto be "Every child in the school every day possible."

In one report, consolidation was advocated as a step in the right direction, but the future extension of consolidation will have to go hand-in-hand with good roads, and wherever population is dense enough to make the system practicable.

High School education is rapidly coming to be recognized as a necessity and not a mere luxury. Democratic thinkers believe in "equality of opportunity," but just how each child, regardless of where he lives, is to be given that equality of opportunity is a problem, and this brings up the whole question of school taxation, a subject we would do well to study, for education cannot be carried on without money and we as taxpayers have to provide it.

Limits of the public purse are recognized as the factor governing educational expenditure, since no self-respecting people who prefer to pay their way expect a better system of education than they can afford to support.

At the same time, let us bear in mind that cheap efficiency is more costly in the long run.

The percentage of High School pupils in Alberta is on the increase as the following figures will show:

In 1905 we had 585 High School Pupils or 2.41% of the total enrolment. In 1915 we had 5,233 pupils or 5.38% of total enrolment—while in 1925 we had 14,713 pupils, or almost 10% of the total enrolment. This proves that each year, more pupils are availing themselves of the advantages of the secondary schools and higher education.

In conclusion let us go forward, determined to achieve still greater things, let us be willing to make sacrifices in order to give our children a well-balanced education which will tend to form habits, ideals and attitudes which will influence their whole lives for good and enable them to take their proper place in the duties and activities of life.

Also let us select our teachers with the greatest care, as the personality of the teacher, the many subtle and indefinable influences of daily social contacts in the class room and on the play ground, are powerful means of moulding character.

There is a task which the National Convener, Miss Dora Baker, has asked the different provinces to undertake, and that is the compilation of a bibliography of sources of free or inexpensive teacher's helps. She asks, where can the teacher secure information on the making of the flag or her programme for Empire Day? or suitable material for the Christmas concert? and many other things.

Now each branch will have some item of information to contribute, concerning some book, magazine or pamphlet and she asks that they forward same to the Provincial Convener and she in turn will send them to Miss Baker. From the whole, some useful helps will be compiled.

Such information to be valuable must state accurately title, author, publisher, address and price.

Again I would draw your attention to Miss Dickie's excellent History Readers.

ELIZABETH L. SHORT.

Mrs. W. C. Short, Convener.

IMMIGRATION

Assisted Settlement of British Families

PLAN IN OUTLINE.

NUMBER OF FAMILIES: 3,000.

ASSISTANCE: The Canadian Government to provide farms, with suitable buildings, at reasonable cost. The British Government to furnish funds (maximum £300) for live stock and equipment.

REPAYMENTS Twenty-five equal annual instalments. Interest five per cent per annum. First instalment due at end of second year.

PERSONAL QUALIFICATIONS: Industry, thrift, persistence, combined with physical, mental and moral fitness. Approval of applicant by Canadian Government officials.

FARM EXPERIENCE: After family is placed on chosen farm, adult members of the family must gain local farming experience by accepting employment on farms in the vicinity; mother and small children to stay on the home farm.

SUPERVISORY ASSISTANCE: Farm supervisors will watch progress and advise new settlers during their preliminary employment and until they are established on their own farms.

PERSONAL CAPITAL: At least £25, after arrival at destination, for purchase of necessaries. The family will be expected to bring with them from the old country necessary furnishings for the home.

SITUATION OF FARMS: In any province chosen by settler himself, if there is suitable government-owned land available. Groups of families may be settled in the same locality.

The plan provides for 3,000 families and, in round numbers, this number will include 500 families settled in 1925, 1,000 in 1926, and it is expected 1,500 in 1927.

You are undoubtedly aware that steps which were taken by this Department have resulted in a very great reduction in the transportation costs to selected settlers entering Canada from Great Britain, the rates payable by the settler having been reduced to £3 10s. to eastern ports with a maximum of £9, including transportation right across Canada. Provision is made for the free transportation of children up to 17 years of age coming with selected families to settle on the land. There is also provision for loans to married men and to domestic house workers to assist them in their transportation expenses.

Under this scheme some 360 families have settled in Alberta. Any British subject in Canada may nominate any British subject resident in the United Kingdom.

PASSAGE ASSISTANCE: Is available under the following schemes:—

(*a*) FAMILY SCHEME: For families who will engage in farming or work on the land. Passage assistance takes the form of a free grant of a part of the cost of transportation for adults and free passage for children under seventeen years of age belonging to and accompanying parents or guardians. The cost of transportation payable by the migrant is shown in the schedule hereto. Where necessary and advisable, the amount payable by the migrant may be advanced in whole or in part as a loan, to be repaid in instalments after arrival in Canada.

(*b*) SINGLE MEN: For single men to be employed as farm labourers in Canada, passage assistance takes the form of a free grant of a part of the cost of transportation. The rate payable by the migrant is shown in the schedule hereto. No passage loans are available for single men, as the cost to the migrant has been reduced to the point where single men should be able to pay their own way.

(*c*) HOUSEHOLD WORKERS: For household workers coming to Canada to engage in household work, passage assistance takes the form of a free grant of a part of the costs of transportation. Every household worker must pay £3 towards the cost of her passage. If necessary and advisable, a loan of the balance of the fare may be made, but in no case will the loan exceed £6.

CLASS OF TRAVEL: The Empire Settlement rates quoted in the schedule hereto are for third class transportation from any port in the United Kingdom to the centres mentioned in the schedule hereto. In all cases the emigrant is required to pay the local rate from the central point to his or her ultimate rail destination.

HOW TO NOMINATE: A Nomination Form may be secured from the Manager of any Chartered Bank in Canada, who will advise and assist the nominator in filling out the form, and if desired will conduct the correspondence with the Department. All chartered banks will have on hand Nomination Forms for (a)

families, (b) single men, (c) household workers. Nomination may be made by name or by description, if the nominator does not know of a suitable person.

REPAYMENT OF LOANS: Nominators of families or household workers to whom a loan is made, will become jointly responsible for the repayment of the loan. Loans to household workers are repayable at the rate of $5 per month, beginning one month after arrival. Loans to families are repayable in quarterly instalments beginning three months from date of arrival and must be completed within one year from the date first payment is made. The employer applying for farm help will be expected to accept and provide work in accordance with the terms of his nomination. It will be necessary for the migrant to furnish a medical certificate and reference to the Canadian Government Emigration Agent in the United Kingdom before approval of the migrant for passage assistance.

Where a nominator is seeking a household worker, great care must be taken to give exact information required on the household worker nomination form.

All nominators will be advised as early as possible of the action taken on their nomination.

SCHEDULE OF RATES:

To—	
Halifax, St. John or Quebec	£3 0
Montreal	4 0
Toronto	4 10
Winnipeg	5 10
Regina, Moose Jaw or Saskatoon	6 0
Calgary or Edmonton	6 10
Vancouver	9 0

The British Government appointed a delegation to visit Canada in the autumn of 1924 to obtain first hand information regarding the system of child migration, placement and subsequent supervision.

The delegation, which was composed of Miss Margaret Bondfield, M.P., Mrs. F. N. Harrison Bell, Mr. C. F. Plant and Mr. W. Garnett, representing the British Oversea Settlement Committee, spent upwards of two months in Canada visiting various points throughout the Dominion. Scores of children were seen in their Canadian homes. The general conclusions reached may be summarized in the following quotation from the delegation's report:

"We are of the opinion that, on the whole, the present system works satisfactorily, and that the prospects for the boys and girls in Canada are better than they would have been had they remained in the United Kingdom.

"The boy who is prepared to take farming seriously can with thrift and determination look forward to becoming an independent farmer in due course. We visited many farms which were owned by men who originally came to Canada as child migrants. In some cases the boys have been allowed to take over the farm of their original employer after gaining the necessary experience. In other cases they have saved enough from their wages to rent and stock a farm, and to purchase it by instalments over a period of years. As regards the girls, the majority of them marry and settle down satisfactorily either in the country as farmers' wives or in the towns."

The delegation pointed out certain weaknesses and made some suggestions, most of which have already been acted upon. Perhaps the most striking change is that with reference to the age of admission. For a period of three years, beginning April 1, 1925, children will be accepted only when fourteen years of age or over. It is thought to be in the interests of the children themselves and of Canada, that children shall arrive at an age when they shall have acquired a primary school education, shall be better able to choose for themselves in the matter of migration, and when their physical and mental development may be more accurately and definitely determined.

Immigration from the United States is undoubtedly on the upward trend. for the first three months of 1924 American immigration to Canada was 3,239; for the first three months of 1925 it was 2,729, and for the first three months of 1926 it was 3,725. The latter figure is subject to some slight revision as details are not complete but is substantially correct. This applies to immigration to all Canada as it is not practicable to keep records showing exact immigration to the different provinces. A settler may enter one province intending to locate in it or he may move from province to province without the matter being recorded in our statistics. In the fiscal year 1924-5 American immigration amounted to 15,818 and in the fiscal year 1925-26 it amounted to 18,763. The latter figure is also subject to some slight revision when final details are received.

The American settlers entering the country are largely of the farm type, good citizens accustomed to farming under conditions much the same as those which prevail in Western Canada. Most of them ome with sufficient cash or equipment to make a start under favorable conditions. They are attracted mainly by the opportunity to secure land of proven fertility at prices much lower than those which prevail in Western Canada. Most of them come with sufficient cash or equipment all of the states; detailed statistics for the whole of the last fiscal year are not yet available but up to February 28th the principal states contributing settlers were the following in the order stated. Michigan, Washington, New York, Minnesota, Massachusetts, California, Oregon. American farmers in nearly all cases are accompanied by their families, either upon their first arrival or as soon thereafter as conditions permit. As already stated they are coming mainly in answer to the attraction of low prices. In many of the chief farming states it is no longer possible to buy land at prices within the reach of a farmer of modest capital. Such farmers find that by coming to Canada they can make a start which is impossible in their old location. In other cases they sell out at high prices and come to Canada to buy again at low prices. It is also generally recognized that agricultural conditions in Canada are better than in the United States, of course, this is an incentive to farmers to come to this side of the line.

CONTINENTAL EUROPE.

REGULATIONS: Under the provisions of P.C. 183 the only persons who are eligible for entry to Canada from the Continent of Europe are:

1. A bona fide agriculturist entering Canada to farm and who has sufficient means to begin farming in Canada.
2. A bona fide farm laborer entering Canada to follow that occupation, and who has reasonable assurance of employment.
3. A female domestic servant entering Canada to follow that occupation and who has reasonable assurance of employment.
4. The wife or child under 18 years of age, of any person legally admitted to and resident in Canada, who is in a position to receive and care for his dependents.

Under the provisions of P.C. 185, it is necessary for continental immigrants to be in possession of a valid passport issued in and by the country of which such person is a subject or citizen, and the passport must be presented within one year of the date of issue. This regulation also provides that the passport of any alien immigrant sailing directly or indirectly from the Continent of Europe shall carry a vise of a Canadian Immigration Officer stationed on the Continent of Europe.

EXAMINATION: During the winter of 1923-24 it was found that a considerable number of alien immigrants from Europe, representing themselves to be farmers and farm labourers, had arrived in Canada holding transportation to the West. One large party discontinued their journey at Montreal, and an agent made application for a refund of the unused portion of the tickets. It was also discovered that Canada was not the ultimate destination of these particular aliens. As a result of this misrepresentation, instructions were received from the department not to vise the passports of an alien labourer who was not in possession of a departmental letter to the effect that the alien was destined to assured employment at farm work or domestic service.

A departmental letter, however, is not required in the case of a bona fide farmer who has sufficient means to commence farming in Canada, nor in the case of a wife (and children) whose husband has been legally admitted to Canada, and who is in a position to maintain his family.

Report of the Supervisor of the Women's Branch, Miss M. V. Burnham.

IN GREAT BRITAIN: Canadian women officers are employed on the staff at the principal emigration offices in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, and the Irish Free State to interview such women as require help and advice prior to sailing. These women officers have a thorough knowledge of Canada, and conditions of employment for women, and are qualified to give information and advice to intending women settlers.

Under present regulations all unaccompanied women from Great Britain, Northern Ireland and the Irish Free State, who are coming to settle in Canada and are not joining husbands, are required to have a sailing permit and must be interviewed by a Canadian Emigration Officer and are asked to submit evidence that settlement arrangements in Canada are satisfactory. In addition they are asked to submit a roster doctor certificate. During the year 11,004 unaccompanied women arrived. Of this number 7,689 were houseworkers; 946 came out to be married, and 2,369 were listed as joining relatives. The women officers attend all embarkations at Glasgow, Liverpool, Southampton and Belfast, and confer with

the steamship conductresses regarding any women who may need special attention on the voyage. They also interview women who have not been seen prior to embarkation.

In order to attract the right type of houseworker to Canada, the women officers lecture in various centres on Opportunities for Women Workers.

IN CANADA—At Quebec, Halifax and St. John, a woman officer meets every ship on arrival in order to confer with the steamship conductress, and receive the list of unaccompanied women who are on board. The following table shows the number of women and children who arrived at the Canadian Atlantic ports during the year:

	Women	Children
Quebec	20,828	12,654
Halifax	5,307	3,079
St. John	2,790	1,890
Montreal	39	21

These figures as compared with those of last year show a decrease in the number of women, and an increase in the number of children.

The women officers at the Port are in close touch with all the steamship conductresses, and a feeling of good-will and co-operation exists. The women officers also assist the women and children before, during and after inspection.

The government conductresses who are sent out in charge of the trains are under the immediate direction of the women officers, who make arrangements with the railroad officials for the accommodation of special parties of women on the trains. The women officers at the ports co-operate with the representatives of the various organizations which are on duty in the Immigration building, namely, representatives of the different churches, the Y.W.C.A., and the Red Cross Society, members of the Imperial Order of Daughters of the Empire have been assisting the Red Cross nurseries during the past year. At Montreal the women officers have special supervision over the welfare of immigrant girls. In the summer season these officers meet all the passenger ships arriving at the port, and assist those who have travelled cabin and need help; she also meets when necessary the trains. The report received of the work done in the past year in Montreal indicates beneficial co-operation with the representatives of the various organizations working in the stations, and careful follow-up work of all Empire Settlement girls.

GOVERNMENT CONDUCTRESS: The work of the conductresses on the trains has been much appreciated by the newly arrived settlers. Thousands of women and children have been given assistance, and their first journey in the new country made less wearisome. Many letters expressing gratitude have been received by the conductresses and the department, from them, and also from young women coming back as returning Canadians, having been married in Canada and returned to England on a short visit. The conductresses report to the supervisor at Ottawa, after each trip, showing the number of women and children conducted, medical attention given, conditions on train, and name of any special family, or young women who are likely to need guidance and help. This report includes both foreign and British girls. Figures taken from these reports show that 16,465 women and 1,940 children have been conducted and given assistance. A number of children travelling alone destined to relatives, require special care on the trains.

Through the conductresses on the trains the department is able to do practical service work, and to give needful assistance to the intending settlers at a time when it is both needed and appreciated.

The same number of conductresses were employed as the year previously, namely seven. During the winter only five conductresses were required. These women have all had considerable experience in nursing, and social service work, and are able, with tact and good judgment, to handle the various problems with which they have to deal.

TRAVELLERS' AID: The women officers of the department speak with appreciation of the co-operation they receive from the Travellers' Aid in Canada. Travellers' Aid Workers at the principal stations in Canada are on duty early and late to assist all travellers and the conductresses wire for their assistance in special cases.

UNACCOMPANIED WOMEN ARRIVING AT ATLANTIC PORTS: The following statement of household workers admitted to Canada during the fiscal year ended March 31, 1925, at Atlantic Ports, is of interest.

Total from British Isles..... 7,689
Total from other countries 4,322

Unaccompanied women from the continent are required to be in possession of a medical certificate, when they come before the Canadian Emigration Inspector

for their vise. Medical certificates are secured in the country of origin from a doctor selected by the Department of Health. Failing that, the examination is held at the port of embarkation on the continent.

It is interesting to note that many organizations in different parts of Canada are taking a keen interest in the welfare of foreign girls, and educational classes are being held in various centres for their benefit.

Follow-up letters were sent in cases of girls whose addresses were in a mining centre, or about whom the woman officer at the port, the ship's conductress, or the train conductress expressed any anxiety. An investigation was always made by an officer of the department when it was considered necessary.

Organizations such as the Y.W.C.A., and the Catholic Women's League, who are visiting unaccompanied women, reported from time to time the names of any young women they were unable to locate, and the necessary action was taken by the department.

CANADIAN WOMEN'S HOSTELS: At the Canadian Women's Hostels, situated in the following cities, houseworkers seeking employment receive from twenty-four to forty-eight hours' free accommodation on arrival.

Province	City	Street Address	Houseworkers Accommodated
Nova Scotia	Halifax	163 Young Street	54
New Brunswick	St. John	35 Union Street	10
Quebec	Montreal	31 Drummond Street	439
Ontario	Toronto	72 Carlton Street	860
Manitoba	Winnipeg	130 Austin Street	201
Saskatchewan	Regina	1839 Lorne Street	77
Alberta	Calgary	120 4th Ave. W.	116
British Columbia	Vancouver	997 Dunsmuir St. W.	30

These Hostels are managed by local committees, and receive grants in most cases from both the Dominion and Provincial Governments. During the past fiscal year the supervisor has visited all the above hostels, over which she exercises general supervision.

In order that distribution may be more general, arrangements have been made for girls to receive twenty-four to forty-eight hours' free accommodation at the Y.W.C.A., in Victoria, the Y.W.C.A. and Rosary Hall in Edmonton, the Y.W.C.A. in London and Hamilton, Ontario; The Catholic Women's League Hostel in Toronto, the Y.W.C.A. Rosary Hall, and the King's Daughters' Guild in Ottawa, Loretto Community House in Montreal, and Rosary Hall in St. John, New Brunswick.

The Catholic Women's League Hostel in Toronto, during the past fiscal year accommodated 81 women, and the Loretto Community House in Montreal, accommodated 112 destined to that city. The Canadian Women's Hostel in Montreal looks after a great many girls who are on their way through that city to other destinations. These girls receive free accommodation at the end of their journey, and are only registered at the Montreal Hostel as transients. This Hostel is much used as a club by girls living and working in Montreal. It is reported that on an average 2,000 girls per month make use of it. The Superintendent reports she placed 745 girls in situations during the year.

The Hostel in Toronto is also exceedingly busy, as many girls settle in that city. The work of this Hostel is most satisfactory, and girls receive individual attention and a warm welcome.

In Calgary the Hostel not only accommodates houseworkers on arrival, but also families to the Land Settlement Branch to settle on farms. The work done by the superintendent of this hostel for newly arrived settlers is greatly appreciated.

The superintendents of all the Hostels report at the end of each month to the supervisor of the Women's Branch, outlining the work which has been done, and the number accommodated. The superintendents give to the various churches a list of the girls who register at the Hostels. In this way each girl is followed up by a representative of her own church. In addition to those who have been accommodated on arrival, girls who are changing situations, or wish a rest, come back to the Hostels where they are welcomed, and given advice and assistance.

FOLLOW-UP WORK: Follow-up work for houseworkers who do not register at the Hostels but come forward to join relatives, or for definite situations, is done by the Women's Branch of the Department of Immigration and Colonization. Circular letters are sent to employers and friends, asking for a report.

During the past fiscal year 4,144 of these letters were sent out, and satisfactory replies were received in a majority of cases. Inquiries which have been made from time to time when answers have not been received show that it is usually

through carelessness that these letters are not replied to. Through these letters the Women's Branch is able to determine how girls are settling down in Canada who are not followed up by the Hostels.

CO-OPERATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH: The names of the young women who come to Canada to be married have been forwarded, as in other years, to Dr. Helen MacMurchy, Department of Health, who sends literature which she thinks will be of benefit to them. It is felt that these girls are put in touch with someone to whom they can apply if they wish any special advice in medical matters.

Contributed by R. J. Stead, Ottawa, and read by Mrs. W. Barss, Delia, Convener.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HOME ECONOMICS

Mrs. J. Macgregor Smith, Convener

How to win recognition of the importance of home-making as an occupation is one of the largest problems facing thinking women today. With a recognition of the significance of home-making will come a different point of view as to the training necessary and there will be less descrepancy between six years of training required for medicine and none for home-making. To say that a woman is just a "home-maker" will be quite as absurd as to say "just a lawyer." The chief fault at present is the way women disparage their own position. We should judge the importance of home-making on the same basis as that used for judging other occupations, namely, the number engaged, from that standpoint home-making is in the lead in 1920 census in the United States—over 20 million women engaged in home-making. The next largest group being forestry and agriculture combined with 12 million, not half as many.

Consider only two functions of home-making—(1) care and rearing of children, (2) use of the family income in a wise and efficient manner. These alone give home-making an important position in industry.

I like to think of the home as a business centre where essential things are done with the least effort and the greatest comfort to all, where all unnecessary steps and motions are eliminated. In a big factory where an expert was called in to look over the factory to see if there were any economies that could be effected, he discovered that men came in one door of a long room and walked the entire length of the room for their tools and came out by the first door, thus wasting much precious time. This was changed by having the tools beside the work the men were to do. I wonder how many of us would profit by having an efficiency expert come into our homes and check up on our wasted time and steps? I am afraid an expert would find many of us wasting much energy by working at tables and sinks too high or too low, walking many miles to get cooking utensils that should be kept close at hand. One woman whom I know keeps her dish pan hanging outside her kitchen door instead of by the sink. In one year I estimated that she walked 18 miles just to get and put back that dish pan three times a day. Why not keep all things used at the stove by the stove; things used at the table, by the table? Have a tray on wheels, make one trip to set the table, and one trip to clear the table. I saw one woman who kept the bread knife in a drawer in the dining room, the breadboard hanging by a string in the cellar way and the bread in a box in the cupboard in the kitchen. It is so easy to plan to keep bread, board and knife together; the tea canister and teapot by the stove. We have a small instrument called a pedometer which is worn on the leg to see how far we walk. You would be surprised, I am sure, to see how far you walk now to get a meal and then how much less after you had carefully planned and placed things in the kitchen.

While waiting for the day when labor-saving machinery will be the rule instead of the exception, much can be done by selection, arrangement, and care of the kitchen equipment to make work easier and working hours shorter.

Do not select at random utensils to clutter up storage space. Only those used daily or at least weekly should be given a place in the kitchen cupboards. Weigh well the usefulness and cost of an article that is seldom used. Is the utensil all it is advertised to be, durable, convenient to handle, balanced, good weight for its purpose, etc.?

In conclusion I want to say that by labor-saving is meant:

1. The careful planning of the kitchen as to its location.
2. The proper relationship of the different units to each other.
3. The correct working heights of all working surfaces.

4. The thoughful selection of utensils and furnishings. (Expensive equipment is not necessary).

Every kitchen should have a soft water cistern pump if there is no other water supply system.

A high stool is an invaluable aid to the woman who wants to keep fresh and young-looking. It saves the tiresome standing and bending which paring vegetables, ironing or fruit canning otherwise demands.

A dish drainer eliminates time in drying and also the washing of dish towels.

All soap, cleaning powders, wire wool, etc., should be kept in a cupboard above the sink.

Woman's very conservativism and contentment have often been her worst enemies. One hospital bill would have bought many a labor-saving device, to say nothing of the joy of good health.

Let us set up a few definite goals that we wish to accomplish, think over the conditions carefully and decide the important changes we can make that will be the greatest help in our work.

Home Improvement is our responsibility, whether we admit it or not.

In the interests of the work in Home Economics it seems wise to use the space alloted for policy rather than report.

Each year as the Institutes respond more readily to my efforts I feel I must give some words of encouragement.

Having received 178 letters from you, I should like to quote from some of them, but space will not permit. The kindly thoughts and words of cheer have been bright spots along the way.

Nearly all of the Women's Institutes have had, during the year, some work in Home Economics. I am particularly pleased that so many have followed the work outlined because in following a definite plan we accomplish something.

Nine Institutes held Round Table Conferences in Home Economics. There were the usual competitions in making bread, pie, cookies, sandwiches, jelly rolls, biscuits, buttonholes, flour sacks; demonstrations in making cheese, candy, cake, pickles, butter; boning a chicken.

Papers were read on: Preserving fruits, vegetables, meats. Use of milk in the diet; balanced meal; hot lunch. Storage of vegetables in winter; Use of vegetables in the diet; Eating for health; Budgeting for the farm family; Household equipment; How to manage housework on the farm; Sanitation; House beautiful; Cooking utensils; Household economy; Food and nutrition; Home-making and appreciation; Labor-saving devices; Step savers; Laundry aids; Farm kitchens; Floor coverings; Removal of stains; Well planned kitchens; The kitchen floor.

Nine Women's Institutes gave the play from "Danger Valley to Safety Hill." Five made posters for the schools. Several had roll call of labor-savers or most useful kitchen article. Some made and sold rugs. I wish especially to mention Coronation and Medicine Hat constituencies from which I have such splendid reports.

Seventy-four Institutes have asked for literature on Home Economics; forty-eight for fireless cooker instructions. Thirty-four Institutes have had fireless cooker demonstrations and I have most enthusiastic letters from those who have used them. In the contest "Uses I Made of my Home-made Fireless Cooker," twenty-five letters were received. These were judged by Miss Mabel Patrick, Miss Edith Deadman, Miss McIntyre, of the Household Economic staff of the University of Alberta. The prizes were awarded as follows:

First prize—Mrs. A. T. Martin of Vulcan.

Second prize—Mrs. Hilliker of Viking.

Honorable mention—Mrs. E. A. Wright, Edmonton.

The Hudson's Bay Company, of Calgary, gave the first and second prize of merchandise to the value of $10 and $5, respectively.

There are four main topics in Home Economics: food, household management, clothing, and shelter. We have skimmed the surface of the first and this year touched the second. For the coming year may we do a little more in Household Management? Will some member from each Women's Institute send me the plan of her kitchen as it is now and then try to rearrange it so as to save steps?

This year a number of Institute members sent me their papers with permission to pass them on and we have had an interesting exchange of ideas. Will more of you please do this?

We sent out 300 questionnaires to the different Institutes. Only 21 were returned. Why didn't your Women's Institute send one back? Only nine consituency chairmen sent in reports.

Would it not be a good thing for the Women's Institute to subscribe to some good magazine for the chairman of their local Home Economics committee? She

would be able to get all the necessary material for her papers from it. Modern Priscilla; Good Housekeeping; Woman's Home Companion; any of these are worth while.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the superintendent and staff of the Women's Home Bureau for their co-operation and especially Miss E. Murphy who has been so helpful in forwarding literature at my request.

Respectfully submitted,
IDA B. SMITH.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Mrs. M. A. Murphy, Cowley, Convener

Madam Chairman and Members of the Alberta Women's Institute:

Early after the New Year, I wrote letters of enquiry re Agriculture to seventy-five of the constituency chairmen. To date I have received thirty very interesting reports, and I here take the opportunity to thank them for the splendid lot of information they have supplied for me. My report might be more complete had I heard from all the conveners. With these reports, together with material gathered from the Women's Home Bureau Service, Department of Agriculture, the Calgary Weekly Herald, other newspapers and magazines, and my own observation, I take pleasure in submitting the following:

In glancing over these reports from the Constituencies, I find that a general spirit of thrift and industry prevails and that most of the Branch Institutes are taking up the worth while subjects of agriculture and are making a close and careful study of them.

Aside from home-making, our women are helping to increase the productiveness of the farm, so that living expenses will not depend entirely on the grain crops.

They are taking up such subjects as gardening, poultry-raising, bee-keeping, marketing produce through pools and market centres, small fruit-growing, tree-planting, the growing of hedges and ornamental shrubs, how to keep weeds down, helping with flower shows, school and district fairs, how to eradicate gophers, magpies and other harmful pests, the culture of flowers in all its branches, how to keep the boy on the farm, how to make the home attractive, and are doing local improvement by way of fixing up and beautifying school grounds, recreational grounds, public parks, cemeteries, churchyards, and in some places are even undertaking the responsibility of planting trees in village and town streets, with most gratifying results, and are helping build community halls, grandstands, rest rooms and sidewalks.

I should like to go into detail of the wonderful work the women have accomplished in the way of local improvement during 1925, but time will not permit.

For the past year we took up as a special work the growing of trees and fruits in Alberta. There has been a widespread interest shown throughout the province in this work and now the truth is beginning to dawn on us of the possibilities which we may reap in this endeavour.

We have talked about trees, we have studied trees, we have written articles about trees, too numerous to mention and have planted trees by the thousands.

The slogan in many Alberta towns today is "A Tree a Man." A good many of the towns have even done more than this by planting at least an average of two trees a man within the town limits.

The bare, bleak prairies are going. It will take some time but we are well on the way.

The prairie settlers in co-operation with Nature and the Dominion Government are restoring the trees, without the use and companionship of which mankind has never made a permanent home.

We find that the treed farm is very noticeable, and acts as a landmark, even at a long distance.

It is at the same time attractive, for nothing is so attractive as beauty nor so pleasing as contrast and there are few things more attractive or more pleasing than the contrast afforded by a green clump of trees in the midst of the brown prairies.

The farmer and his family have shelter from the winds and shade from the sun, and the fierce blasts of winter pass over them, giving a feeling of comfort and protection.

Aside from a touch of beauty and comfort, the value of the farm is greatly increased and the general outlook of the country is improved.

The benefit of the material advantages resulting from a good garden invariably follows the shelter belt. An abundance of the finest kind of vegetables and small fruits can be grown anywhere in the province, and rarely do we find farmers trying out apples, plums and cherries until there is a well established shelter belt; and rarely do we find a belt of a few years' growth that is not sheltering the first plantings of an orchard. The one invariably follows the other.

We have no record of fruit growing successfully on the prairies, except in the shelter of a belt of trees.

The destiny of our country lies in its agricultural prosperity and the permanence of our farm population lies in the comfort and contentment of our farm women. When woman has the comforts of life in her own home surroundings, she will be contented and happy and not until then.

We find that it is the home that is planted up and beautified with shrubs, vines and flowers, that reflects peace, happiness, contentment and prosperity.

We also find that where there is a shelter belt or plantation that the moisture is conserved in the soil, by saving the snow from blowing off in winter, protects small fruits and orchard trees, attracts insectivorous birds which destroy thousands of insects, protects growing crops, prevents soil drifting, the spread of weed seeds, furnishes building material, fence posts and firewood, and protects the farm buildings and farm stock.

The children will never forget the trees, the orchards, the snowbanks, the favourite corners where they played, the comfort and protection they sought on warm sunny days, the shape of the trees, the wind rustling in their leafy branches, will all be pleasant and lasting memories of childhood. These are the things that count and instil in the child the love for the free country life where man is lord of his own domain.

About fruits: wherever there is a good shelter available, whether provided by nature or man, the prairie farmer will, in a comparatively few years, produce the bulk of fruit for his own requirements. Practically every prairie farmer can grow his own small fruits and some of the large ones. Apples, crabapples, plums and cherries can all be grown all over Alberta provided it is gone at in a systematic way and profit taken of those who have devoted both time and money in trying it out.

In some cases the quality is not of the highest, but the improvement in both quality and quantity is very marked. Science is doing for horticulture what it has already done in such a remarkable degree for agriculture.

Hardy and early maturing fruits have been and are being developed to suit short seasons and low temperatures.

It is reported that crabapples are growing at Athabasca Landing. Away up in the Peace River country, several hundred miles above Edmonton, Hansen and Sand cherries have proven hardy and fruitful. There is a farmer who homesteaded seventy-five miles east of Calgary, eighteen years ago, who in recent years planted thousands of trees. Now he is growing dozens of crabapple, plum, and a few standard apple trees, all doing well and bearing fruit for the past six years, besides numerous currants, gooseberries, Sand cherries, raspberries and a large strawberry patch, wherefrom he has obtained all the fruit his family could use and had some to sell.

Another instance of successful fruit-growing is of a farmer near Hardisty, who from a plot of one-eighth of an acre of Everbearing strawberries, containing about eighteen hundred plants, set out May 20th, 1925, sold two hundred and fifty-eight dollars and nineteen cents worth of berries, and has about five thousand plants for sale. He intends increasing his patch to half an acre this year.

Imagine the joys of the family when they can gather their own fruits, a product of their own efforts. It is not so much the actual saving of money, but the satisfaction of having succeeded, that is appreciated.

Here and there all over the province individual farmers are growing a portion of their own fruit and everywhere there is a real awakening to the possibilities of fruit-growing.

In the treed sections of Alberta we find an abundance of wild fruits growing. This condition is to be found mostly to the north of the province, where the necessity for growing tame fruits is not felt so much.

Some reports from this section stated that hundreds of quarts of wild fruits had been canned by the women who live in these localities. These fruits consisted chiefly of strawberries, raspberries, gooseberries, blueberries, saskatoons, and both low and high-bush cranberries.

On general agricultural lines I have the following to say, For 1925 dairy products totalled twenty-three million dollars. Alberta butter continues in front rank with respect to quality. We took 38 per cent. of prizes in eleven exhibitions

in Canada, and thirty-two per cent. of all first prizes, but the outstanding triumph for 1925 was the winning of the gold medal for exhibit of salted butter at the Dairy Show in London, England.

The poultry production showed a slight falling off for obvious reasons, but we have changed in a few years time from an importing to an exporting territory and now claim second place among the provinces of the Dominion in poultry per farm, with an average of 80 head. Last year Alberta exported sixty thousand cases of eggs, the bulk going to England and Scotland. Live poultry handled in commercial houses amounted in value to three million, one hundred and twenty thousand dollars, and eggs marketed to the value of five million, eight hundred thousand dollars. While the poultry industry was encouraged last year, by the establishment of a provincial hatchery which shipped fourteen thousand baby chicks to every part of the province.

Bee-keeping is coming to the front; 115,000 pounds of honey was produced in Alberta in 1925, valued at about $23,000. This more than doubles the amount produced in 1924.

There are great possibilities for this industry in this province.

The growing of corn in the south is creating considerable interest. The acreage was increased from 15,000 in 1922, to 70,000 acres in 1925.

The first corn show was held by the Alberta growers in November last Fall at Lethbridge, with 2,600 ears of corn coming from 61 individual exhibitors.

Based on a fair market value all of Alberta's agricultural products for 1925 was estimated to be $255,000,000. This is one of the highest production levels ever reached in the province.

Agriculturally, Alberta is in a very promising position.

It has become active in most all lines of farming industry and is marketing its produce in a satisfactory manner. The re-entrance of the sugar beet industry into Southern Alberta, together with the experiments which have been carried on in the production of hemp and fibre flax are drawing attention to the possibilities of adding new products to the farm, while the cattle, sheep and hog industry is now on a more satisfactory basis.

With the expansion of the agricultural situation, the ever-increasing manufacturing, the marketing of all farm products together with the handling of natural resources our greatest need at present is capital and people, and will be for some time to come.

The wonderful strides made in agriculture in the past few years should increase our confidence. Perhaps there are no better living conditions offered today, on the American continent, than are found in Alberta. We have every reason to expect 1926 to be even a better year than any previous year in the history of our province.

A change appears to be taking place in the agricultural problems. Wheat will no doubt continue to be king in Alberta, but diversified or mixed farming is forcing its way to the front, simply because it makes the financial problem surer and insures a better and easier living.

The change is already beginning, from a straight wheat-growing frontier, to a more settled farming community, and with the diversified wave, with more livestock, alfalfa, corn, sweet clover, poultry, hogs, sheep, dairying and gardening, better and more permanent homes are surely spreading over these western prairies.

It seems that we are at the dawn of a new era, with our pools, market centres, rapid communication, and better transportation facilities, we are paving the way and pushing ahead to a period of better times. This will not only bring a wave of prosperity to the agricultural population, but will have an equally good effect on business in general.

There was an enrollment of 363 attending the agricultural schools for the past term, fitting the boys for all-round farmers, and the girls for more capable homemakers.

"Man plows and plants and digs and weeds
He works with hoes and spade.
God sends the sun, and rain, and air,
And thus a garden's made.

He must be proud, who tills the soil,
And turns the heavy sod,
How wonderful a thing to be,
In partnership with God."

MRS. M. A. MURPHY.
Cowley, Convener.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CANADIANIZATION AND NATIONAL EVENTS

Mrs. J. P. Ferguson, Convener

Before entering into the details of this report, I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the work done by the members of this committee throughout the province and of the readiness in which they have co-operated with me during the year. Excellent reports have come in from a large number of the constituencies telling of the work already done and the plans for future progress. These reports show that a greater interest is being taken in this department and that many branches are giving concrete expression to the meaning of the term "Canadianization."

During the year we have had as one of our aims the fostering of a deeper sense of our duties and privileges as Canadians. To accomplish this aim many of the branches have made a special study of Canadian History from Confederation to the present time; others have given study to Canadian Civics and to Canadian Literature. Books by Canadian writers have been purchased in some branches and loaned to the members. Again one branch reports having a full program of music composed entirely by Canadians.

Numerous interesting papers on the lives of our outstanding statesmen have been prepared by members of this committee, read at the meeting in their own constituency, and then forwarded to me. These I have passed on to the branches which desired to use them at their meetings.

But the time has not all been spent in study. Real practical work has also been done. Flags have been donated to schools and assistance has been given to strangers to our land. From more than one branch has come the report that the Institute members prepared the house and even planted the garden for strangers who were coming to the district. Then too, almost all the branches have a committee to visit strangers, especially those from foreign countries. In this way we can be of real help to the woman who comes to Canada not knowing our language nor our customs. The kindly assistance of an Institute member may mean the making of a new Canadian in the true sense of the term.

One Institute had an All Canadian program, when the lives of prominent Canadian authors were studied, songs written by Canadians were sung, and a tea of Canadian products was served.

I think we do not make enough demonstration on our national holidays. There are places where Empire Day and Dominion Day pass almost unnoticed. Here is a field for our Institute to develop. Can we not co-operate more with the teachers in our schools and make these two days at least stand out as the most memorable days of the year in the pupils' minds? I know that some of the Institutes do make special efforts on these days but then there are many that do not and it is to these last few that I make this appeal to attempt some demonstration in your locality to drive home to the younger people especially the meaning of Dominion Day this year.

One branch reports that at each meeting ten minutes is devoted to the discussion of current events which touch our national life. This is a splendid plan and I hope some of the other branches may adopt it. In many cases the roll call for one meeting in the year is answered by some event of national importance.

A questionnaire is being prepared which will be forwarded to each Institute early in the autumn, and I hope that for next Convention this committee may have a better and more detailed report to make.

In closing this report I wish to thank again all those women who have done so much to make this committee worth while, and I may bespeak one word for the coming year. Can we make it possible to report to the convention in 1927 that every school in the province has a flag and that flag was flying on each of the anniversaries of the great days of our national history?

Respectfully submitted,

RUPLE FERGUSON,

Convener of Committee on Canadianization and National Events.

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTE GIRLS' CLUBS

Miss Isabel Noble, Daysland

Madam President and Ladies:

Before giving the Girls' report I am going to give you a bit of ancient history. Our first Convention was held in Olds, the second in Edmonton and the third in Calgary, in this room, in the month of March.

All that winter I had been visiting Institutes—finished my itinerary at Lougheed the day before the Convention. On going down to Calgary, I met, on the train, Mrs. Jack Mavor, the president of my own Institute at Daysland. She told me she had only returned from spending the winter in Quebec and New Hampshire. While in New Hampshire she attended the State Convention of the Federated American Women's Clubs and met there Mrs. Wood, one of the Federated officers. Mrs. Wood was much interested in Mrs. Mavor's account of our young Institute in Alberta, and gave her the American Club Creed, which she told Mrs. Mavor had been written by an invalid woman who was interested in Women's Clubs. Mrs. Mavor gave it to me to read. I liked it so much that I asked her if I might read it at our Convention in my presidential address. She gladly gave her consent and I read it and at the close of my address, Mrs. Grisdale, then of Vermilion, now of Olds, and at that Convention elected one of our directors, moved that we adopt it for our creed. She said, as we were non-sectarian she thought it would be most appropriate.

I am telling you this because I have never told the Convention that we in Alberta owe our creed to Mrs. Mavor of Daysland, and I am sorry to have neglected to do so.

Now before I give my report I wish to leave with you one thought which I am going to give the girls at our Jasper Convention.

I remember, in my younger days of hearing a young man say he had no vaulting ambitions. I thought at the time it was very queer, for then my own ambitions were extra high vaulting. But I am not going to urge my girls to be ambitious for great things; instead I am going to tell them

1. To know themselves,
2. To be themselves, and
3. To give themselves.

The Greeks said to their young men, "Know yourself" and they urged them to make up their minds in their teens what they wished to become, telling them if they did, there would be fewer disappointed old people. I see certain Rotarian Clubs are meeting with the young teen age boys, trying to help them to decide upon their careers for the self same reason.

Marcus Aurelius said, "It is better to be yourself than to copy those who are wittier, wiser or better endowed than you, for genuineness should always be preferred to imitation."

The Master of Men said, "Give yourself," and if our girls learn when young to give themselves to good work and good thoughts, we won't have jealous or selfish women. The Master gave Himself, and although he lived but a few years he will always be remembered as the greatest and best of men.

Paul Dunbar, a clever American negro poet has expressed the same thought very philosophically:

The sunflower ain't de daisy
And de willow ain't de rose;
Why is us all so crazy
To be sumpin' else dat grows?
Jess stick to de place you're planted
An' do de bes' you knows
Be de sunflower or de daisy
De willow or de rose.

Don't be what you ain't,
Jess be what you is;
If you am not what you are
Den you is not what you is.
If you're jessa little tadpole
Don't try to be a frog,
If you are de tail
Don't try to wag de dog.

Pass de plate, if you can't
Exhort and preach,
If you're jess a little pebble,
Don't try to be de beach;
When a man is what he isn't
Den he isn't what he is,
An as sure as I'm a-talkin'
He's a-goin' to get his.

It was my pleasure to visit the Girls' Clubs again last winter. I should have visited forty-three Clubs, but on account of illness had to cancel fourteen days of my trip. We now have fifty Girls' Clubs. They are slowly but surely growing.

I found the Clubs in a flourishing condition—greatly improved since my visit last year. Their programmes are better and they are taking more and more an interest in their community work so I feel sure you would realize they too are living up to our good motto.

Story of McLennan's work—

This Club was found fault with because they appeared to be working just for themselves and their own pleasure, so last winter they set aside $50 for community work. They gave $25 to the Institute to help them out with their Christmas treat for the poor. They gave $20 worth of provisions to a poor family and bought a flag for the school with the remaining $5. This they dedicated with appropriate exercises when I visited them.

The girls have sick, and flower committees, just like yours. One Club, Coronation, organized in February, has collected 300 books. These books are to be used for a town library. Another Club has a poultry department—the girls sell baby chicks and eggs,—the money goes to the Club.

Most of the Clubs have a gymnastic period in their meeting. You would be delighted to see how splendidly the girls conduct their meetings, both business and programmes.

The Convention last year at Banff, Lake Louise and Calgary Stampede was a huge success. It was reported by the secretary, Mrs. Clara Johnson, to Mrs. Rogers, and you no doubt have read it in the 1925 Convention report. The girls are working this year for a scholarship which is given them by Hon. George Hoadley. The girl making the highest number of points in the ten competitions will be given her expenses at Olds, Claresholm or Vermilion.

The work is growing but we want it to grow larger and larger. I am asking for your support in this for we need you and you need us.

PUBLICITY REPORT

Mrs. J. F. Price, Calgary, Convener

The greatest piece of publicity that I have done during the past year is the writing of a brief history of the organization and work of the Women's Institute, for the Grade VIII history reader, in the first series of eight Canadian history readers which have been written and compiled by Miss Donalda Dickie, M.A., of Calgary, and which are being published by J. M. Dent & Sons. The significant importance of this, is the fact that henceforth the children in the schools will be studying the Women's Institute movement as a vital factor in community life. The more influence that each branch or individual can use to get these books authorized as text books, or have a set placed in each school, the more the work of the Women's Institute will be known.

If you do not see regular news reports of your branches appearing in the weekly Edmonton Journal, Alberta Farmer, or Lethbridge Herald, it is for three reasons.

1. I do not receive any reports from your branch. Investigate at once to see if these are being sent to the department regularly.

2. Your reports are too late. Do not send your Christmas activities in March. Get your secretary to mail the report of the meeting at her very earliest convenience.

3. Your reports are too general—you have left out names, you have said "general business discussed" or a "pleasant time was had"—without particulars.

The responsibility of getting in the news rests with you. I use and am glad to use every available bit of live news items. If you have a complaint send this to me at once and I will let you know when and where the last bit of news was published and if I am getting any from your branch.

I have been asked to give publicity to the forthcoming celebration of the sixtieth anniversay of the Confederation of British North America into the Dominion of Canada. This suggestion has been mentioned in the senate, approved by the provincial premiers, and has been promised to be noted in parliament, this diamond jubilee year of 1927. The advantage to Canada from the great national unity which would follow is so evident that it needs no explanation. This might well be handed over to the Canadianization and National Events committee.

The publicity goes on regularly—two to three columns in the three Alberta papers, fifty-two weeks of the year. As your reports come to me I file them alphabetically —if two have accumulated I combine the news of both. I then "take my typewriter in hand" and do three copies—edit them and mail them to the papers about five days ahead—careful that they always get out on time.

In closing let me assure you all once again that I enjoy my work and stand at all times to get ready for the press anything of news value that you send me—while very often the Alberta Farmer uses many of the "papers" given at your meetings, especially those that fit in with the home department.

It is not necessary to burden your branch with a special press reporter unless you have some one specially fitted for this work or that you have some very special work. The secretary can combine this work easily with her monthly reports. Please see that the following directions are placed in the hands of that member of your branch who is responsible for reports.

1. Write plainly, and in cases of names, where a typewriter is not used, print them.

2. In using names, use Miss or Mrs. with initials. In case of Mrs. use husband's initials as that is the name used in the community.

3. Make copy brief as possible but to the point, writing as you would tell the story of the meeting to one who was not there.

4. Write the most important thing first.

5. Study good newspapers for style; compare printed articles with what you have written and keep a scrap book of your clippings.

6. Get personally acquainted with your editors. Find out what they want and give it to them.

7. Do not send special Women's Institute stories to the four papers that publish our weekly news regularly. Please send them to me, then our work is not duplicated and these papers do not waste space.

8. The earlier your report is in the better your local editor will be pleased—and also the quicker your reports are in to the Department the earlier I get them.

9. Above all be accurate.

Below are a few don'ts gleaned from reading the many hundreds of reports that are submitted during the year.

1. Don't send in a blank sheet. Surely you did something when you met.

2. Don't just put "Regular business done"—tell what was done.

3. Don't refer to "One of the members spoke" or "The President gave an address," or "We appointed a delegate to the Convention," or "We presented our secretary," or "We had a reception for a member leaving the district." In each of the above tell the names of members, president, secretary, etc.

As the majority of the stories that come in are on the following subjects I am giving a few headings for reference.

COMMUNITY HALLS.—Tell cost, how money was raised, a description of hall, number of rooms, stage, kitchen, furniture, etc., and send PICTURE

PRESENTATIONS TO MEMBERS.—Names of members, gift, details of Women's Institute work, where going.

CLEAN-UP DAY—Describe campaign, what you intend doing and plan of work, prizes offered and above all results.

CEMETERY WORK.—If you have bought a lot, tell its cost, location and plans of beautifying.

HOT LUNCH STORY.—Number of children served, menu, equipment and cost and its benefit.

DEBATES.—Name of subject, names of those who took part and the winners.

BAZAARS AND SALES.—Above all the amount raised and how it is expended.

ANNIVERSARIES.—Programmes and number of anniversary.

SWIMMING POOLS AND RINKS.—Cost, how money was raised, how they are enjoyed, and pictures.

GIRLS' CLUB CAMPS.—Description of camps, preparations, location, division of work, and pictures.

BABY CLINICS.—Number of babies examined, the name of doctors and nurses in charge, general description, any concrete cases of benefits and pictures of any special babies or clinic in operation.

RESOLUTIONS.—Report discussion.

SCHOOL FAIRS.—Where it is held, prize list, cost, general description.

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT.—Descriptions of it, cost and pictures of children enjoying it.

RELIEF WORK.—Story and picture of any child helped, the cost of it, how money was raised and result.

LOCAL HISTORY.—Local history papers are always welcome and would be thrice welcome if pictures accompanied these. Most pioneers do not care to part with original photographs but these can be copied at the cost of one dollar each and the picture could be returned. I would gladly get that done for any branch wishing it. The southern part of the province has been doing nobly on the history but in all our two years of endeavor the north and central as yet have done nothing. However it is never too late to start.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

ELIZABETH BAILEY PRICE.

REPORT OF THE WOMEN'S HOME BUREAU SERVICE

Miss Jessie C. Macmillan, Director

Madam President and Ladies:

The work of the Institutes is intimately associated with the Women's Home Bureau Service Branch of the Department of Agriculture. From returns sent in, in reply to questionnaire which we prepared at the request of the Provincial Advisory Board, we find that there are 282 Institutes in the province. Two hundred and eight sent in financial returns, the total amount collected by these being $42,063.41, or an average of around $200. There are fifty Girls' Clubs. Twenty-one Clubs reported with a financial standing of $2,678.88 or an average of $125. There were thirty-eight Constituency Conferences held with an attendance of 2,436, and one District Conference.

DEMONSTRATION AND LECTURE WORK

The arrangements made for carrying on this work are as follows: The Department of Agriculture provides the lecturer or demonstrator, paying her travelling expenses and sustenance allowance. The local organizations undertake to advertise the lecture, demonstration lecture or short course. They provide the place of meeting and some of the equipment, where equipment is required.

Home Bureau Service work is carried on during every month of the year, the greater part being done during the summer months.

Number of Foods, Cookery and Household Administration Short Courses and Demonstration-Lectures given 13

Number of Sewing Short Courses and Demonstration-Lectures given..... 80

Number of Millinery Short Courses and Demonstration-Lectures given.. 59

Number of Basketry Short Courses and Demonstration-Lectures given... 22

Total attendance at all Short Courses, Demonstration-Lectures and Lectures 15,789

Number of places visited 104

Dressmaking and Sewing Courses have been held for three or five days. This type of work is so much a part of the daily life of our women that there will always be a fair demand for help of this kind.

Millinery courses have been carried on for three and five days. This branch of our work is a very popular one and has been and is valuable in many ways as well as in the making of hats. Cleaning, dyeing and tinting of materials and flowers have been successfully given during these courses.

The processes used in the handling of different types of goods have been shown to the classes and the methods of testing textiles to find out what materials are made from, has been dealt with.

Basketry courses have been carried on for three or five days. Very little can be accomplished in this subject in one day and we do not recommend organizations to take the work for less than three days unless they had a course before and wish to do follow-up work. It is hoped that as a result of the work now being done in basketry courses, our women will develop the work along lines which will enable them to go into the making of small articles of household furniture for their own use. Many of our people have come from countries where arts and crafts are a well organized and paying industry and through time we should discover those skilled in this way, and using the law of demand and supply as a basis, bring people wanting such goods into contact with those who have the training to carry out the specialized work here, rather than having them send to the old lands. It is an important factor in our development as a province that we get to know the possibilities that are within our own territory.

Just what this adult educational work is to our people it is not possible to state in figures, nor in black and white. The Branch sends out the best demonstrators it can procure, but that is only something like fifty per cent. of successful prepara-

tion for the work. The local organizations must carry out their part of the agreement to make the work helpful and a success in their district. Organizations are realizing this fact more and more and the demonstrators are finding that excellent plans have been made in many cases before their arrival.

Some Women's Institute constituencies have arranged to take one subject or at most two subjects for the coming year's work. This plan was suggested about two years ago. Certain advantages are to be gained by such a system. This was seen at the Hand Hills Constituency Conference this year. They had several exhibition exhibits, but the one which is of special interest to me was the millinery exhibit. Prizes were offered and the exhibit was divided into two classes—dress hats and sport hats. These were made during demonstrations or in follow-up work. Millinery was the subject which had been chosen for the work of the constituency during 1925.

It is interesting to note that the Constituency Conferences of the Women's Institute are this year reported to be the best held for some time.

LOAN COLLECTION, CLIPPING BUREAU AND TRAVELLING LIBRARIES

This branch of our work has gone on quietly doing the work for which it was established. It has developed in the most healthy way and is being more used each year by those who know its value. Many people do not know about this part of our work and, therefore, do not ask for the help which is ready for them to use. Miss Murphy, the librarian of this branch, is willing and ready to give information and assistance to those applying for it.

Community work of a social kind is rapidly materializing. Community singing, sport clubs and dramatic societies are sharing with dancing, increasing popularity. To help to meet these demands, we have a large selection of plays which are loaned out, also books of information on entertainments and books of words of songs, for free distribution.

The travelling libraries are doing a very necessary piece of work in rural and isolated districts. They contain books of good fiction, travel and biography. Information on technical and more solid subjects can be got from "books from the shelf" or from other libraries which deal more fully with such subjects.

During the year 1925 there were 3,110 reference folders sent out and 72 travelling libraries.

THE ALBERTA WOMEN'S INSTITUTE GIRLS' CLUBS: These have not increased in numbers, but they are working very actively. They have done a good year's work during 1925 and they had an excellent Convention at Banff in the month of July. As Miss Noble is here to report this work, I am merely mentioning it.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S IMMIGRATION: This committee is still functioning, though not very actively. The various organizations throughout the Province took up the work of welcoming the newcomers so heartily that all the Committee are doing at present is merely holding a watching brief. The Women of the United Farm Women of Alberta, The Women's Institutes, the Local Council of Women, as well as members of other organizations are co-operating with Boards of Trade and representatives of the Land Settlement Branch (Dominion Department of Immigration). In this way there is little or no overlapping. The effort which has been put forth in an endeavor to give newcomers a fair start and a kindly welcome will give an ample return in the districts which are being benefited by new settlers coming in.

The names and addresses of the Conveners of the Welcoming Committees are kept on file by us; there are 205 Committees if they have all reported to me.

Work of this kind helps us so much as well as the newcomer. It brings us into direct contact with vital and fundamental problems and prevents us becoming rather self-centred. It has such a humanizing influence on us to help those who are beginning to build up a new home; it keeps sweet the milk of human kindness.

It has been most encouraging for the members of the Provincial Advisory Committee on Women's Immigration to have the organizations of the Province come forward and assist us as they have done.

I have much pleasure in thanking you for the attention you have given me during the reading of this report.

NATURALIZATION

Mr. I. F. Fitch, B.A., Calgary

Madam Chairman and Ladies:

May I take this opportunity of expressing the regret which I share in common with yourselves that Mrs. Bury is unable on account of ill-health to be present this morning? I can give this evidence of the sincerity of my feelings in that regard.

When I was told that it would relieve her anxiety somewhat if I were to accept responsibility for this address, I did not hesitate for one instant in complying with her request. I consider it both a privilege and an honor to have been invited by your Executive, which is not unmixed with sadness because of the absence of the Convener of your Legislation Committee, for whom we all have such a profound respect.

May I add this that while I consider your invitation as an honor, the acceptance is with mixed feelings of pleasure, because so far as I am aware I have never before addressed a gathering constituted entirely of ladies. I think that a man has better luck in dealing with the sex individually than collectively, although I am bound to say that neither individually nor collectively has my luck been of such a character as to be worthy of special mention in the war dispatches. However we are here to talk about naturalization.

Before entering upon that phase of the subject in which you are probably most interested, namely naturalization in its relation to women I propose to deal briefly with the general law of Naturalization.

Naturalization is a Dominion matter. By Section 91 of the British North America Act it is enacted that the subject of naturalization and aliens is one over which the Dominion Parliament shall have exclusive legislative authority. Marriage and divorce come within the same category. On the contrary by Section 92 of the same Act the province has the exclusive right to legislate respecting the solemnization of marriage.

Our present naturalization law is found in the Dominion Statutes known as the Naturalization Act of 1914 and 1920. In 1919 the 1914 Act was repealed but re-enacted and added to by Chapter 59 of the Statutes of 1920. These two acts of 1914 and 1920 which are really treated as one and read together, were amended in some important respects in the year 1923.

May I at this point make a word of explanation? In stating any proposition of law, I shall express as accurately as I may the principle involved, without regard to any fine distinction which might make an exception in any particular case. The limited time at my disposal makes that necessary in connection with this subject, abounding as it does in those minute differentiations which are the intellectual joy of every lawyer but an aggravation to the spirit of respectable citizens. If we concern ourselves with every minute phase of this question, we shall never reach the subject of which we desire to obtain some comprehensive grasp.

In logical sequence the first question we should ask ourselves in a study of Naturalization is as follows: Who are natural born British subjects? The answer is found in Section 1 of the 1914 Act amended in 1923. They are of two classes.

1. Any person born within His Majesty's Dominions and allegiance. In effect, all born in this country.

2. Any person born out of His Majesty's Dominions, whose father was at the time of that person's birth a British subject.

What are the conditions under which an alien may become a British Subject? That is answered in Section 2 of the Act.

1. He must have resided in His Majesty's Dominions for a period of five years, and the last year in Canada.

2. He must have an adequate knowledge of either the French or English languages.

3. Intention to reside in His Majesty's Dominions.

4. He must take the oath of allegiance.

Mark however this: The Secretary of State is not obliged to grant a Certificate of Naturalization to any person. It is within his discretion, and there is no appeal from his decision. We shall not at the moment deal with the procedure. If the Certificate is granted however, the alien acquires the status of a natural born British subject. That Certificate under certain circumstances however may be revoked. If the Certificate has been obtained by fraud or misrepresentation, if the naturalized subject has been guilty of certain grave misconduct, if he has been absent from the King's Dominions for seven years, and if in any event the continuance of the Certificate is not conducive to the public good, the Governor in Council may cancel the Certificate, but before doing so, he may refer the matter to a judicial commission, but he does not appear to be bound by its report. The effect of the revocation upon the wife and minor children, I shall refer to in a moment.

We come now to the phase of naturalization law in which organizations of women have been much interested for several years, and that is the status of married women. To women the most important section of the Act is that which pro-

vides that the wife of a British subject shall be deemed to be a British subject, and the wife of an alien shall be deemed to be an alien.

To this general rule there are four exceptions:

1. If the husband ceases to be a British subject during their marriage, the wife may retain her British nationality by making a declaration of her desire to do so.

2. If her husband dies, or if her marriage with him is dissolved, she may obtain a Certificate of naturalization without complying as to the residence conditions.

3. If a wife born a British subject is married to an alien whose country is at war with Britain, she may make a declaration that she desires to resume British nationality, and she may in the discretion of the Secretary of State be granted a Certificate.

4. If the Certificate of Naturalization of the husband is revoked, the wife and minor children are not affected by the Order, unless the Order expressly so provides.

These exceptions become of importance when we come to consider the arguments respecting double naturalization.

The issue then is plain and simple, should the nationality of a married woman depend on that of her husband, or should her nationality be independent of marriage? The advocates of the second principle urge that a woman's citizenship should be determined by her own qualifications, and not by the status of her husband.

Before entering upon the arguments advanced for each contention, I propose briefly to trace the history of the law on this question. The first general Naturalization Act in English law was passed in 1844 by the Imperial Parliament. Prior to that time an alien could be naturalized only by a private act of Parliament, affecting only his own particular case. There was no general procedure he could follow. The national status of the ordinary person was determined by the Common Law of England. By the Common Law of England the nationality of a woman was not affected by her marriage. If a British woman subject married an alien, she remained British, if an alien woman married a British subject, she remained an alien. In 1844 the position of the alien woman was changed by making her a British subject if she married a British subject. In 1870 the position of the British woman was changed for then it was enacted in the result that if a British woman subject married an alien, she was deemed to have adopted her husband's nationality. That is the law of Canada today, the law of England, the law of most countries. During the war, however, the question of the nationality of married women which heretofore had been considered by women even, of no great interest to themselves, assumed its true importance. Great hardships were suffered by natural born British women subjects who happened to have married alien enemies. Since the war many women's organizations have advocated a change. The call became more insistent since the United States in 1922 passed the Cable Act providing in effect that so far as the United States was concerned a woman's nationality should not be affected by her marriage. In January, 1924, the U.F.A. in its Convention at Edmonton, passed the following resolution:

> "That we reaffirm our stand for an amendment to the Naturalization Act to enable married women to take out personal naturalization papers, and to permit a married woman who is a British subject, but who married a person of foreign citizenship to retain her British nationality unless she choose to do otherwise."

The latest development in the matter is a resolution of Miss McPhail's in the House of Commons, which as reported in the public press is as follows:

> "A woman of British nationality residing in Canada, should not lose, or be deemed to lose this by her act of marriage with an alien, but that it should be open to her to make declaration of alienage if she so desires."

I know of no better way to introduce the argument on the matter than to read a certain public letter from Mr. Thomas Mulvey, Under Secretary of State for Canada. It was addressed to Mr. Spencer, Secretary of the U.F.A. Group in the House of Commons, who had sent to Mr. Mulvey a copy of the U.F.A. Resolution which I read a moment ago, and that letter is as follows:

> Ottawa, Canada, 26th March, 1924.
>
> Sir:
>
> I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th instant, covering a copy of a resolution passed at the last Annual Convention of the United Farmers of Alberta, advocating an amendment to the Naturali-

zation Act, providing for the personal naturalization of married women. This letter, which was addressed to the Minister, has been handed to me to be answered.

There are insuperable difficulties in the way of the Canadian Parliament introducing or passing legislation authorizing the personal naturalization of married women.

The Naturalization Acts, 1914-1920 were originally passed in 1914, after being duly considered by the Imperial Conferences from 1889 to 1914. The subject was first dealt with by an Interdepartmental Committee which made a report on the 24th day of July, 1901. That report was circulated to all the Dominions, and was the subject of correspondence extending over several years.

It was before the Colonial Conference in 1902 and various Colonial and Imperial Conferences in later years. The first draft of the bill was prepared in 1907, and was circulated to the Dominions with an explanatory memorandum. Extensive correspondence again ensued.

The result, therefore, is undoubtedly that while the Naturalization Act may be deemed to be legislation of the various units, of the British Empire, where it has been brought into force, it is also the nature of a treaty between the Dominions and the United Kingdom, and it is understood that none of the essential features of the Act should be altered without a conference of the United Kingdom, and all the Dominions upon the subject.

Our Act as it stands then is similar to that in force in the United Kingdom, Newfoundland, and Australia.

The subject of the personal naturalization of married women was before a Select Committee of the House of Lords, and the House of Commons of the United Kingdom on the nationality of married women. The Committee was appointed on the 13th of March, 1923, and sat through the months of May and June of that year. The subject was exhaustively considered, and a draft report was dealt with. It was found impossible for the Committee to agree upon the terms of this report, and the following report was submitted to Parliament:

That the Committee have met to examine the British law as to the nationality of married women, to consider in their legal and practical aspects the questions involved in the possession by husband and wife of the same, or of different nationalities, and with due regard thereto, and to the operation of the laws of foreign countries to report what, if any, alteration of the British law is desirable.

The Committee having been unable to come to an agreement as to the form of a report have directed their proceedings, together with the evidence, to be laid before both Houses of Parliament.

In view of this conclusion, no legislation has been adopted, or is likely to be adopted by the Parliament of the United Kingdom, and until this is done the parliament of Canada cannot act.

Irrespective of these difficulties, I respectfully suggest that the United Farmers of Alberta, and other organizations which are pressing for this legislation have not considered the subject as deeply as it requires. They no doubt look to the independence which they believe would accrue from personal naturalization, without considering the difficulties which would also follow. If the personal naturalization of women prevailed throughout the civilized nations of the world, these difficulties might perhaps be negligible, but we must recognize the fact that with, I believe, two exceptions (the United States and one other country) the nationality of the wife follows that of the husband.

The result of the proposed legislation would be that in many cases, married women would have no nationality whatever, could not procure passports, would be unable to travel, and would be subject to disabilities which they apparently have not looked for, or—possibly do not wish to see.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,
THOMAS MULVEY,
Under Secretary of State.

You will observe a reference to the Committee of Lords and Commons which investigated this question. I have in my hand a copy of the evidence, and other proceedings before that Committee. It is Mr. Mulvey's copy, and I believe the only copy in Canada, the loan of which I have procured through the kindness of Mr. Mulvey, and the courteous assistance of Mr. Bennett who vouched for its safe

return. I would like to take this opportunity publicly to acknowledge to them the assistance which they have so kindly rendered. It has been invaluable in the preparation of this address. The book is some 200 pages of closely printed evidence and proceedings. The remarkable result of the proceedings was that all the members of the House of Lords on the Committee favored the law as it stands. The members of the House of Commons on the committee unanimously favored a change. That may be used as an argument either way. I am bound to say this, that it did appear to me when reading the proceedings that those on the Committee favoring a change had arrived at their opinion before they heard the evidence adduced before the Commission. I have reason to believe that this was indeed the case, and it may not be a criticism of their attitude. There is a great deal to be said in favor of each contention.

The arguments of those in favor of a change in the law are somewhat as follows:

First they say that the matter apparently was not very seriously considered when the Common Law was reversed by the Naturalization Acts of 1844 and 1870. That appears to be true. Nationality was considered as of no great importance in itself. The advocates of a change say that the wishes of the woman in the matter were not then considered, that they had no expressed opinion, if indeed they had any opinion formulated. Now they say the case is different. The evidence is that a great many women's organizations have favored the principle that a woman's nationality should depend on her own qualifications, and not upon those of her husband. Their demand however is for something which they claim is theirs, and as a matter of right under the new conditions. Perhaps I cannot better express this view, than by quoting a brief extract from the evidence of one of the expert witnesses before the Commission. It was the representative of the Home Office and he testified as follows:

> "The demand for a return to the Common Law position is based on views which differ widely from the principles which seem to have underlain the nationality rules at Common Law. The National status of married women at Common Law simply was the result of the general principles which governed the law of British nationality under the old system. The first of these principles was that British nationality could be conferred or acquired only by birth within the allegiance of the Crown, that is to say, that no alien woman could become British subjects by the mere process of marriage to a British subject. The second principle was that no one could be discharged from, or get rid of obligations imposed by birth within the allegiance, for those days there was no question of self-determination for married women, or women generally. It is interesting to note as well that at Common Law a married woman could have no separate property, she could not make a valid will, and in other ways she was subject to disabilities which do not now exist."

Again the advocates of a change say that the old theory that husband and wife are one, has in fact disappeared in practice, and remains if at all as nothing more than a theory. The independence of the wife from her husband has been asserted in many other fields, and should be established in the matter of nationality. They can now own their own property, they can now vote, they take their place in the work of the world, and all the attendant responsibilities. Then they say if a British woman marries an alien why should she have to give up her nationality? They say that the whole movement in foreign countries is towards that view, and of this there is some evidence, because France and Italy have provided that the women subjects of their respective countries shall not lose their native nationality by marriage to an alien, unless by the law of the country of her husband, she became a subject or citizen of his country. In other words, if a native born French woman married a Canadian, she would under both Canadian and French law become a British subject, divested of her French nationality. If a French woman married an American citizen, she would under both French and American law, retain her French nationality, and she would not become a citizen of the United States. She could not vote in the United States. You will observe that she could do so here.

There is one argument by which I have been much impressed. It does seem unfair that a native born British woman subject should lose the national status she acquired by birth, and the privileges which she inherited perhaps through a long strain of loyal ancestors, by reason of the mere fact of her marriage. She might know the Parliamentary system of government in all its phases, but she could not vote; she might be the lineal descendant of Edward Blake, but she would not be a Canadian. She might have all the scholarship of Sir Robert Borden, or the simple greatness of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, but she could not be elected to a

Provincial Legislature. On the other hand, if an alien woman marries a Canadian, she immediately becomes a British subject, and thereafter is qualified to vote, or to sit in Parliament, and in some ridings of this province, that is not an impossible thing. She might believe that the Fathers of Confederation were the surviving members of the Jewish Sanhedrim, but she would have a right to vote. She might think that proportional representation was a simplified method of filling out the income tax returns, but she would still be eligible for election to Parliament. She might even think that group government was the most effective method of electing to the Legislature the ablest men in the province, but she would still have the right to vote. It is manifestly unfair that a British born woman should by her marriage lose all her rights of citizenship, and that an alien woman by reason of her marriage to a British subject, native born or naturalized should acquire all the rights of citizenship and become one of the heirs of a great tradition. My British and Canadian citizenship is something which I for one treasure very highly, and I do not believe that it is something which should be lightly won or easily lost, like an appendix by a simple operation.

An alien woman should not become entitled to the franchise and all privileges of citizenship simply by marriage to a British subject however illiterate and disloyal she may be, or her brother should not be required to live five years in the country and comply with the requirements I have outlined in order to acquire the same status, either the woman is admitted into citizenship too easily or the requirements made of her brother are too stringent. It cannot be right both ways. It may have been a logical position in the Victorian days when a husband could answer for his wife's behaviour, but those days have gone I fear, may I say perhaps I regret, forever.

The opponents of a change, however, advance some very serious objections. It appears to be common ground that if all the major countries of the world would accept either the one principle or the other, no great harm would be done. Most of the nations, however, make the nationality of husband and wife the same. If one country adopts the other principle, then you will find a woman with no nationality at all, or perhaps two nationalities at one and the same time. For instance, if a Canadian woman married an American citizen at Canadian law, she is no longer a British subject, and she is not, at American law an American citizen. She has no nationality whatever. Nationality is not a matter of personal wishes, it is a matter of law. On the other hand, if an American woman marries a Canadian, she becomes a British subject at Canadian law, and remains an American citizen at American law. She has a double nationality.

The second objection is the problem of the children. Which nationality will they take? The answer seems to be that all children born on British soil should be British subjects. The main argument is, however, that the principle of the unity of the family should be maintained, and that a difference in nationality might contribute as discordant a note in the domestic harmony as that which unfortunately has often appeared from fundamental differences in race or even religion.

Well, Madam Chairman, and Ladies, I have summed up the argument on this question, I hope fairly to both contentions, I leave it with you for your best consideration. May I suggest that you do not arrive hastily at a conclusion. It is not an academic question; there are grave and weighty objections to this supposed change which I have barely mentioned. Remember that every item of legislation in domestic matters of importance, in the last 20 years, has been an abandonment of the doctrine that husband and wife are one. Remember that the unity of the family is the principle upon which our social order is based. Anything which tends to weaken that common bond is not for the ultimate good. You have gained much and many things in the independence of women, but with a great price you have bought this freedom. It may or may not be in the ultimate interest of society that nationality of husband and wife should be a matter of individual preference, and it is for you to say.

PRAIRIE TREE PLANTING

For Convention of Women's Institutes of Alberta, May 26th, 1920

Tree planting is of universal interest to every person living in the prairie provinces, city and country dweller alike. Those in the towns and cities have the problem not only of improving and beautifying their own private lots but also must provide for the planting and boulevarding of streets, development of parks

and cemeteries and suitable surroundings for schools and other public buildings. In the country the farmer is concerned with first of all the making of a home, an attractive liveable place having an atmosphere of rest and contentment. No matter how expensive and elaborate the house and buildings may be we all know that unless these are arranged in a suitable setting of trees and ornamental grounds the real home effect is entirely lacking. While trees on the farm have a real practical dollars and cents value there is little doubt that in the prairie districts this is a matter of only secondary consideration as compared to their aesthetic and sentimental values.

Prairie tree planting is such a large subject it would not be possible to cover the whole field in a short address. As farm planting is probably of most general interest to those present it will be best to confine this paper to that particular phase of the question. What place then do trees have in the general farm scheme—

1st, and of greatest importance as before mentioned is their ornamental and sentimental value.

2nd. They provide shelter from the winds to the buildings, gardens and live-stock.

3rd. They will, when properly arranged, entirely do away with the inconvenience of deep snow drifts around the buildings in winter.

4th. Besides saving fuel on account of their shelter value, in the course of a few years the tree belts can be made to provide regular supplies of fuel and material of considerable value for fencing and other farm requirements.

5th. Field and crop shelters are in some districts of very great importance, especially where soil drifting is prevalent.

Almost since the first years of settlement the Government has been alive to the importance of tree planting to the prairie farmer and there has always been the desire to assist and encourage him in this line as far as possible. In the earlier years, however, the difficulties due to topographical and climatic conditions were not fully realized and the various policies intended to encourage tree planting were not followed by very satisfactory results. One of the first schemes was known as the "Tree Claim Act," introduced from the States to the South. Under this Act a settler could secure patent to his homestead without doing all the regular duties of cultivation provided he planted so many trees. While quite a large number of homesteads were granted under these terms, as far as we are aware there is only one plantation, situated in Southern Manitoba, now surviving. Most of the plantations did not last very long after the official inspection and granting of patent. This plan then was dropped as a failure. When the Experimental Farms were established at Brandon and Indian Head tree planting was one of the first matters to claim attention. Besides carrying on extensive experiments to determine what varieties would prove suitable to Western conditions a considerable number of seedlings were grown and distributed in small quantities to whoever applied. The weakness of this scheme lay in the fact that there was no control over the planting of the stock, and as a consequence a very great proportion of the material failed to live for more than a year or two, and again the distribution was neccessarily so limited that the few dozen plants which the individual might secure were quite inadequate for the development of any practical farm shelter belts.

In 1900 the Hon. Clifford Sifton inaugurated the present policy of a co-operative tree planting scheme to be carried out by the Forestry Branch of the Interior Department. The main feature of this policy is the inspection of the land to be planted before trees are granted and inspection for several years after planting to ensure proper methods of care and cultivation. This distribution is carried out on a sufficiently large scale to enable a farmer to set out quite extensive and practical shelter belts. The results of this policy have been wonderfully successful ever since the start, and some years ago after studying our system very carefully an almost identical policy on a somewhat more limited scale was put into force by the United States Federal Government in the North Central prairie States.

Under our present system the Forestry Branch has, since 1901, sent out to prairie farmers a total of some 87½ million trees and cuttings. These have been planted on some 87 thousand farms. Not all of these plantings are successful. Some, a very small percentage, are neglected. Some are destroyed by conditions over which there can be no control such as hail, long continued drought, etc.; but on the whole results have far exceeded the expectations of those who were originally responsible for putting the scheme into effect. Actually only 5% really can be classed as failures.

This work has demonstrated absolutely that trees may be successfully grown in any locality where farming can be carried on profitably. There is no necessity or excuse for any farm home remaining in a bare, treeless condition. We will readily

admit that there are some difficulties to be met and no doubt disappointment and discouragement will be experienced at times. It is the same with every line of agricultural work. Our grain crops are subject to hail, rust, drought and insects. Live stock men have their own troubles, and naturally tree planters and horticulturists cannot expect absolutely plain sailing. When dealing with trees which take years to develop the discouragement of course is perhaps more keenly felt when a failure is experienced after many seasons' care and labor. However we have got to the stage now where the principles of prairie tree culture are fairly well known, and even locally we know now what varieties may be more or less depended on and what methods of cultivation are most likely to assure success.

As a result of over twenty-five years' close study of prairie planting and the observation of thousands of farm plantations in all sections of the prairie provinces, we find that to ensure success a few important points must be closely considered:

1. Land for planting must be well and deeply prepared,, free of all perennial weeds and grasses and well stored with moisture. Summerfallow on the average is the only dependable preparation. This does not apply so strictly in irrigated districts, but even there summerfallow is advisable in order to have the ground clean.

Ordinarily planting on new breaking and backsetting will in the end prove a disappointment.

2. Much depends on varieties. These must be hardy for the district, and it is of utmost importance that they are of hardy strains. A Manitoba Maple, for instance, grown from seed collected in Minnesota, would undoubtedly winterkill, while those grown from Saskatchewan seed would have much greater hardiness. It is important therefore to know where the stock originates.

3. After planting the young trees must receive cultivation for several years until they become firmly established. Grass and weeds must be kept out and all the moisture possible conserved for the use of the trees.

If these three points are religiously observed success will be reasonably certain. There are other features of somewhat lesser importance which require thought and attention such as the matter of spacing, fencing and protection against stock, protection against insects and so on, but there is hardly time here to discuss these in detail.

While there is no real difficulty in growing trees where proper varieties and methods are used, to be of most value considerable thought must be given to their arrangement. Unless placed in the proper place hedges and shelter belts may prove most inconvenient. All the time spent on preliminary planning and arrangement will bear abundant fruit. The whole scheme of planting, including yards, gardens, ornamental grounds, must be carefully thought out and should be sketched on paper so that there is a definite picture in mind to be developed as opportunity affords. It will probably take several years to complete the actual plan, the main belts, garden shelters and hedges being the first to receive attention, while the lawns and ornamental grounds generally have to be left till some advantage can be taken of the protection of the earlier planted belts.

We can hardly consider at all in detail the varieties of trees, shrubs and ornamental plants which may be used. It is true that as compared to those living in the East we are very much limited to choice, but we have sufficient available material to produce as pleasing effects as can be obtained anywhere.

As much use as possible should be made of native or local varieties. Many treelike shrubs such as chokecherry, pincherry and saskatoon can be used most effectively in both windbreaks and ornamental plantings in combination with the more usually planted, maples, poplars, ash and elm. The native birch is one of our hardiest and most ornamental sorts but one seldom sees it under cultivation in the West.

To intelligently plan the plantings one must have some general knowledge of the types, habit of growth, length of life and soil conditions to which the different varieties of trees and shrubs are best adapted.

You are probably all familiar with the Russian and other varieties of common cultivated poplars. For the first eight or ten, sometimes fifteen years, these poplars grow very rapidly and a plantation of them at this stage is a splendid sight. Experience has shown, however, that we cannot expect these poplars to remain in good condition much over fifteen years on the average. After that they become infested with canker and other troubles, usually causing the majority to die before the age of twenty or twenty-five years. Therefore if one wants a permanent plantation it is most unwise to plant only poplar or any other short lived kind of tree. We find it very difficult, however, to get the average planter to realize this. But nothing will discourage one more than to see what was considered a thriving plantation gradually dying out after ten to fifteen years of age. In planning the

plantings therefore these features must be kept in mind. Quick growing kinds are useful in order to get rapid results but for a permanent planting they should always be set in mixture with longer lived but slower growing kinds such as the ash, elm, spruce, etc.

Of all the trees adapted to prairie planting the hardy evergreens such as native spruce, Scotch pine, Jack pine and lodgepole pine are the most useful, beautiful and permanent. They are green all through the long winter months. A single row is more effective as a windbreak than six or nine rows of the broadleaf varieties. They naturally have a comparatively long life and best of all once they are established they will withstand drought and the encroachment of grass that would be fatal to the broadleaf trees. They are unfortunately somewhat slow of growth at first and are not so easy to secure and are more expensive than the kinds usually planted. It is popularly supposed that they are hard to transplant, but this is not really so, if ordinary care is exercised in handling them. In regard to growth, while they may be a little slow to start, once well rooted they make up for lost time. A Scotch pine at eighteen or twenty years old will generally outgrow a maple of the same age. In the older plantations on the Indian Head Nursery Station we find that more actual wood is produced in the pine and tamarac plots than in any other variety except the poplars. From a small ¾-acre block of Scotch pine planted in 1906 we cut this winter as thinnings 4½ cords of good fuel wood, still leaving the remaining trees in the plantation at an average spacing of just over 5 feet, the trees averaging over 25 feet in height.

From a utility standpoint as well as for their ornamental value these hardy evergreens should be planted on every farm.

One of the most useful shelter plants is the caragana. It is probably the hardiest and most adaptable of all our available broadleaf kinds. It is not really a tree but a large shrub which may reach probably 20 feet as a maximum height. It makes the best all round hedge for trimming to any desired height and is particularly valuable for mixing in the general shelter belts to give a dense ground cover when the other trees get older and begin to lose their lower branches.

No particular mention has been made of purely ornamental varieties and shrubs for planting round the lawns. There are quite a number of these and full information in regard to them may be had in the bulletin which may be secured by applying to the Dominion Horticulturist at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

With the development of the farm shelter belts we find an increasing interest in the question of fruit growing. There is a great field here for investigation and experiment. Some years ago it was thought that the growing of apples and plums was a practical impossibility on the prairies. However, we hear now of both these fruits being raised fairly successfully at many widely scattered points. In Southern Manitoba in one orchard, as many as 300 barrels of apples were harvested in one season. The Experimental Farm at Morden has dozens of varieties now fruiting regularly, while at the Nursery at Indian Head we have regularly for several years large crops of plums and each season we are able to ripen an increasing number of standard apples. Mr. Heyer, further west at Neville, has been quite successful with his fruits, while Mr. Glambeck, near Gleichen, has reported very encouraging results. No doubt there are many others of whom we do not know who are having the same experience. Conditions for fruit growing in Alberta are certainly less favorable than in either Saskatchewan or Manitoba, but it is only a question of a few years until new varieties will be developed which will thrive under your local conditions.

Small fruits such as raspberries, currants and strawberries can be easily raised but must have shelter to reach their best development. The same is true of the vegetables and ordinary flowering plants, both perennials and annuals.

The importance of tree planting then to the average prairie farmer can hardly be overestimated; enabling him to live in comfortable and beautiful surroundings, to produce his own fruit and vegetables almost without limit, really enabling him to be probably the most independent citizen in the country.

SYNOPSIS OF ADDRESS ON COLONIZATION AND LABOR PROBLEM

Mr. C. W. Peterson, Calgary

C. W. Peterson, publisher "Farm & Ranch Review," spoke on the colonization and labour problem. He held the view that the occupational group most interested in the settlement of our vacant lands was the farmer and his family. The Canadian

farmer has a vital interest in the inauguration of vigorous and comprehensive policies by the various governments and railways designed to promote the actual colonization of our vacant agricultural areas. It would mean the stabilization of the value of his land, his chief working asset, again placing his industry on a solvent basis, it would solve his labor problem, improve his social and economic conditions, lighten the burden of taxation and improve his position in many other directions. The speaker pointed out that the development of Canada's enormous area of sub-marginal lands, i.e., bush districts, the drier lands and those with shallow, stony soils and undesirable topography presented a special problem and could only be permanently developed by the European peasant class with a standard of living below that of Anglo-Saxon races.

THE ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION.

The past score years had witnessed a complete social and economic transformation in Anglo-Saxon countries, a rise leading to a standard of living unprecedented in history. The younger generation has been reared under these new conditions and to the older generation they have by this time become a fixed habit. Hours of labor have been greatly curtailed, the household budget looks fantastic compared with that of the eighties and nineties, sanitary and household conveniences make the modern, modest home a place of delight, and radio, autos and our amusements generally have been revolutionary in their effect. There could, of course, said the speaker, be nothing but the highest praise for this beneficial and extraordinary development.

THE SAME OLD PIONEERING PROBLEM.

But the pioneering problem, in connection with Canada's more inferior lands, is still largely what it was. It is perhaps somewhat less exacting than the task that confronted our forefathers during the heroic era of Ontario and the West. It was, however, still a backbreaking undertaking involving hardships and living conditions entirely out of tune with present standards in progressive countries. But we apparently persist in ignoring fundamental facts and expect our own kind of people to cheerfully embrace a task which their environment has, in most cases, unfitted them for and rendered distasteful. The best evidence of the truth of this assertion is the fact that practically the only actual colonists from Anglo-Saxon countries we are now able to interest are those who come to improved farms under the Empire Settlement scheme or similar plans, which movement bears not the least resemblance to pioneering.

COUNT THE COST.

In spite of all our exertions to draw so-called "white" agricultural settlers to Canada, east and west, this pioneering job on our enormous area of sub-marginal lands still confronts us and it will remain an unsolved problem just so long as we regard the Eastern European peasant as an undesirable element in our national life.

It is highly significant that these people have stayed with the job and succeeded in our drier areas and on our bush lands in Northern Ontario, British Columbia and the Prairie Provinces. If we persist in deliberately excluding them, we should do so with our eyes wide open. We should not, however, overlook the fact that our casual farm labor problem can only be solved through the colonization, on small areas and in small groups, of a class of people that would be available for work during our busy seasons on the farms, and at such a rate of pay as the farmer can afford to pay. This is the only way towards greater diversification.

THE FARMER'S WIFE.

The question of occasional domestic labor also enters into the matter. The overworked housewife faces periods of extra strain during the agricultural year. It is useless to look to urban centres as a source of occasional help. Domestic servants will not go into country districts away from the conveniences and amusements of the towns. And they do not have to. Competition for their services is keen in urban communities. To obtain such labor upon our farms for short periods during the year is, therefore, practically impossible. The plan under discussion would also solve this very serious problem. The wives and daughters of this class of settlers would welcome the opportunity to earn a substantial sum during haying, harvesting, threshing and fruit picking seasons. The speaker appealed to the convention to consider this phase of colonization, and embody their views in a formal resolution, so that the authorities would know where they stood.

REPORT OF THE CONVENTION OF THE FEDERATED WOMEN'S INSTITUTES OF CANADA, VICTORIA, JUNE, 1925

Mrs. J. N. Beaubier, Champion, Delegate

To report with any degree of interest, a Convention held a year ago is no easy matter, you will agree; and especially after the printed report of the Biennial, containing all official information, has been distributed does this duty become rather difficult. However, I am deeply indebted to you for the privilege of attending this Convention and shall endeavour in return to bring to you some of the inspiration imbibed as well as to strengthen our relationship with the Federated Institutes of Canada.

As you already know the offices of this great organization are filled by the most prominent women in Canada, women who have actually accomplished things in their respective provinces. Just to meet and to know, even semi-intimately, these refined, educated and energetic women, devoted to the establishment of better living conditions all over our Dominion, is, in itself, sufficient compensation for any sacrifice necessary in order to take advantage of such an opportunity. That I have been thus privileged will ever be a source of satisfaction and appreciation. Life will ever be richer, broader and better for such associations.

For the first time in the history of the Federation all the Provinces were represented; this was made possible by the better financial condition of the F.W.I.C., which permitted payment of the expenses of one delegate from each Province. It is hoped that this gratifying condition will continue as it is to the greatest interest of the organization that a full delegation be present.

Your representatives were very proud of the fact that Alberta, as in former years, had paid her full allotment into the Federated treasury.

Beginning with a Board meeting on Monday evening, June 22nd and continuing till Friday evening with meetings morning and afternoon and committee meetings and conferences in the evenings, no time was wasted. In my mental portrait gallery I have a picture of the room in Memorial Hall, Victoria, where most of the Board meetings were held, seated around a large table, with Mrs. Watt, the President, at the head, presiding in her sweetly gracious manner; at her right and left respectively, the faithful secretaries, Mrs. Speechley and Mrs. Rogers and down the sides the other members of the delegate body. A distinguished group of women, intensely earnest in their deliberations, spirited in debate, courteous when differing in opinion, considerate at all times; and with all their grave-mindedness, ready to lessen the tension with a hearty laugh, should occasion offer. Particularly impressed on my mind is the alertness with which every subject was discussed. No phase of any question or proposition was allowed to slip through unnoticed.

The annual Convention of the British Columbia Women's Institutes was in session in Victoria during the same week and arrangements were made whereby joint meetings were held on several occasions. One of these programs was particularly interesting when one delegate from each Province brought greetings. the President gave her address, and Dr. Warnock, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of British Columbia, spoke on the amendments to the B.C. Agricultural Act which affect the Women's Institutes and which provide for a Provincial Federation and district organization.

The President's address is printed in full in the biennial report, but in case some of you may not have read it I venture to quote her statements regarding the progress of the Federation during her tenure of office.

"1. Ten thousand copies of our handbook have been distributed among our members in every part of Canada. Among the many favorable criticisms received, one Women's Institute has expressed its gratitude for the valuable material furnished by the Handbook for meetings during the year.

"2. An exhibit was staged by the National Federation at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto during August, 1924. Six Provinces sent the most educational exhibit possible. These gained such popularity that the Exhibit Board again extended to us an invitation to send an exhibit to this famous exhibition in 1925.

"3. An Executive meeeting was held in Toronto at the time of the C.N.E. at which every Province was represented except Prince Edward Island. At this meeting many important questions were discussed; our Constitution was reconstructed, and other matters settled, as indicated in the minutes already in your hands. Every member in attendance gave addresses on the public platform at the C.N.E.

"4. Our affiliation with certain nationally organized societies has been of great value. In 1924 at St. John, N.B., the Social Service Council of Canada allowed ten of our members to attend its meeting, and again in 1925 at Hamilton, Ontario, our

members being privileged to take part in and vote on the many essential questions dealt with by this Council. Delegates from the National Federation also attended the Conference of the Canadian Council of Child Welfare held in Winnipeg in September, 1923, and your member on this Executive is kept in touch with every phase of this most important work. The same may be said of the League of Nations Society.

"5. Your committee, appointed at Fredericton in 1923, to wait on the Honorable Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa, to suggest the formation of a Women's Institute Division at headquarters there, was courteously received, but could gain no promise that this would be considered. Today, however, we understand that a Woman's Building is now under discussion and we hope to receive recognition in this.

"While congratulating ourselves on our progress and successes we must at the same time ask ourselves, 'What of the future? Can we continue to measure up to the high standards that have hitherto characterized the activities of our organization, and at the same time branch out into other lines as opportunity presents itself?'"

So valuable were Mrs. Watt's services in connection with the exhibit that the Board expressed the unanimous wish that she continue with the arrangements for the 1925 exhibits. The success of that effort is well known.

Time and space permit me to comment on the splendid and comprehensive reports of the Conveners of the various Standing Committees only in a general way. I can safely say if every Women's Institute in Alberta will carefully study and follow out the suggestions made in these reports, they will do the biggest and most satisfactory year's work in their history. In fact, the outlines given will cover a much longer period, and they are so practical that even the smallest branch may use them to good advantage.

Every Convener is selected by the Federated Board with great care, and is known to be well fitted for the work of the particular department for which she is chosen. Added to these qualifications the Conveners have brought to bear on their work all their ingenuity and personal devotion toward advancing the interests of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada. But of what use will all their time and efforts be if we do not avail ourselves of the information they bring us? The great aim and object of the national organization is to reach the individual homes of its 60,000 members, and the only possible avenue through which this contact may be made is the Biennial Report. The compilation of the report entails no small amount of work, I can assure you and the expense of printing same is one of the largest items in the federated budget. In spite of all this, I fear many copies never see the light of day after they reach the W. I. Secretary. They are carefully pigeon-holed in her desk in too many instances.

Please, dear W. I. officers and members, read and use these valuable little books in your branches.

A slight discrepancy in the standing committees of the Federal and Provincial organizations may be worthy of note. Our Dominion is so large and the conditions are so different in the east and in the west that it was deemed advisable to appoint two Conveners for the Immigration Committee, one for each section. The former Committee on National Events was made to include Canadianization as well. It was decided to continue the Committee on Canadian Industries, a comparatively new committee in W. I. work, and a resolution strongly recommending that each Provincial Women's Institute appoint a Convener of Canadian Industries at the earliest date convenient was adopted.

A new Committee for the study of the League of Nations was created and a Convener appointed. Each Province has been asked to support this movement by establishing a similar Committee under a Provincial Convener.

The F.W.I.C. could not be truthfully designated as a "resoluting body" As a mother is known by her children so is an organization known by the resolutions it endorses. A careful attitude towards resolutions has characterized the F.W.I.C. ever since its inception. At every meeting the Board is deluged with resolutions, emanating from every imaginable source; and only by and through the good judgment and wise discretion exercised by the Federation Board are we protected from the misuse of the prestige which we rightfully claim as an organization.

Only three resolutions got by the Board at the last meeting; these were:

1. That the F.W.I.C. strongly endorses the idea of further representation by women on the League of Nations.

2. That a Standing Committee be established for a study of the League of Nations.

3. A resolution protesting against a proposed amendment to the Criminal Code before the Federal House, at that time, which would permit a wide open door for games of chance at Agricultural Fairs.

A few changes in the Constitution were made. One of general interest is that the Past President shall be Honorary President and ex officio member of the Executive Committee, without a vote, for the succeeding biennial period. By this provision, the knowledge and experience gained by the retiring Federation President is not entirely lost to the organization.

Another amendment of special interest to Alberta Women's Institutes is: That the office of Recording Secretary be exempt from term limit, thereby making that officer eligible for more than two consecutive terms. The Publicity Secretary also comes under this provision and the A.W.I. carries the honor of providing both these distinguished members of the Federation official family, viz., Mrs. A. H. Rogers and Mrs. J. F. Price.

Lest you think that we forgot the warning that "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," I must mention some of the delightful motor excursions and other features of entertainment arranged by the W.I.'s in and near Victoria. Luncheon at the Memorial Hall provided by the City Board of Commerce; motor trip to William Head through the courtesy of the Department of Agriculture, where a banquet was served by the nearby rural branches; a wonderful trip to the Observatory, with a short stop at the Saanich Health Centre, on the way; returning by way of the Experimental Farm where tea and a feast of native strawberries was served; tea at Government House followed by a trip to the Esquimalt Dry Dock, said to be the largest in the world and later a banquet tendered by the Victoria and Esquimalt Women's Institutes at which Lieutenant and Mrs. Nichol were present and gave short addresses; a luncheon at the Empress Hotel, when the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company entertained and a number of health talks were given; these were the main features of entertainment accorded the delegates, and that each one was duly enjoyed and appreciated, you may well imagine. Due largely to the capable management of Mrs. V. S. MacLachlan, the entertainment program was so arranged that it did not conflict with nor infringe upon the time of the business sessions of the Board, so each delegate felt justified in taking advantage of all of them.

In conclusion I may safely say that the Fourth Biennial Convention showed very definite progress from the organization point of view; the very fact that every one of the nine Provinces sent representatives to this Convention demonstrates the solidarity of the Federation. Every topic brought before the Convention was visualized from a national viewpoint, the result was a broader policy and a marked improvement in the way of nationally organized achievement. The continued progress and ultimate success of the Federation depends in large measure upon the loyalty of every local branch; there must be the bond of unity leading from the individual members through the local branch to the Provincial organization and thence to the National Federation. Even as the strength of the Provincial body depends upon the loyalty and support of its units, so does the Federation rely upon the activities of the Provincial organizations for its very life.

In the future, as in the past, I know that the Alberta Women's Institutes may be depended upon to meet every demand which will lead to a closer contact between them and the Federation leaders, who are giving such unselfish service toward developing Federation work.

WHAT CHILDREN SHOULD READ

Miss D. J. Dickie, Calgary Normal School

Modern life is such a busy affair that one can not afford to neglect the consideration of such an important activity which demands so large a part of it as reading. Even those who are not "readers" now read enormously as compared with their grandparents. What does reading do for us? In the mind of the "reader" the first answer is, "it interests me, it amuses me, it rests me." The "reader" reads because he likes to read, he has the reading habit, he can not keep from reading; to him reading is the greatest single source of pleasure in the world.

Pleasure is the principal motive of the "reader," and it is, usually, the *only* motive of the "non-reader"; but reading has another value. From it we get much of our information. In school reading is the common method of study, and when youth is past it becomes the chief source of further education. Books open to us

the world of Science and Art; they introduce us to the company of the wise and great. In them we live in the age and place which attracts us and move in any society which we enjoy. Books, as much as experience, make us what we are, for while they amuse us and instruct us they mould our tastes and form our ideals. In them we see life mirrored and from the array of ideas, beliefs, prejudices, emotions and modes of behaviour there presented we choose which seem to us admirable; to these we, more or less unconsciously, fit our lives.

Since reading is so important an activity of adult life, it follows that the child should be taught to read well and wisely. To do just this is probably the chief business of the public school. Learning to read well and wisely means more, you will perceive, than merely learning how to read. Teachers are so accustomed to think of the public school as divided into the three divisions, the primary, the intermediate and the senior; to these divisions they adapt both material and method. In reading there are certain well defined aims for each of these divisions. In the Primary (grades 1, 2, 3) the teacher plans to teach the child the mechanics of reading, the symbols and how to interpret them. She instructs and drills until he can gather and give the meaning from the printed page, accurately, easily and quickly. This done, in the Intermediate grades (grades 4, 5, 6) her business is to teach the children to *like to read,* to train them to regard reading as the simplest and most pleasurable way of amusing and instructing themselves; in short, to fix upon them the reading habit. In the Senior grades (grades 7 and 8) it is the teacher's duty to teach the children to distinguish between good reading and poor reading and to fasten upon them the habit of reading good material *part of the time.*

The formation of these habits, so big with value for the future, depends only partly upon the teacher. Heredity and home environment have each their weighty part to play. In the case of children whose parents are "non-readers" it is often difficult, often impossible, to form such habits. On the other hand, every teacher knows that a child that comes from a home where the parents read to themselves and to their children, a home where books and newspapers are as much a part of life as is the daily bread; such children are found to be from one to three years ahead of the others, not in their reading lessons only but in other subjects as well. To be born of healthy, thoughtful parents in a cultured home is all that any man or woman need ask of life.

But no matter how fortunate in home and parents, one can not become a skilled reader without training. That a man or woman should be an efficient reader three things are necessary. He must have been taught properly *how* to read, so that he gathers the meaning quickly and accurately; he must have read so much that the activity has become automatic; and he must have read the "key" material, those poems, songs, stories and books which belong to the race and which provide the reader with a kind of common stock of reading material; the "key" material which enables him to understand and appreciate all other reading matter.

First of this "key" material is the nursery rhyme and story. The half articulate lullaby with which a mother puts her baby to sleep is his very first literature lesson. The long wandering songs, The Mother Goose Rhymes, the accumulative stories (as The House that Jack Built), the nursery story (Cinderella and Red Riding Hood), most of them repeating the words and all of them the structure, these give the child's sense of rhythm its first training, a training which his singing games, folk dances, songs, physical training, music and literature lessons later will complete.

Why train his sense of rhythm, you ask? There are many reasons, but the one that concerns us here, the one which connects with his reading is this: Rhythm is the distinguishing quality of all great literature. In prose or in poetry it is always true that great literature is always rhythmic, poor and mediocre literature never is. To explain why this is true is outside the range of this paper. It must suffice to suggest that just as the words by their meaning express the writer's *thought,* so the rhythm, the *sound* of word and sentence structure, expresses his emotion and his spiritual power. Great literature is the embodiment of great emotional and spiritual power; therefore great literature is rhythmic. The inference as to the training of the child is obvious enough. If you wish your child to be able to read and appreciate great literature you must train him to hear and appreciate literary rhythm. Your lullaby song and the nursery rhymes are his first lessons in this.

Next tell him Bible stories, read them to him, repeat them, and make him tell them to you again, so that the names, the deeds, the ideals of conduct which make the warp of civilized life may enter into his baby mind and become a part of it. The fairy tales, too, Grimm and Anderson, these are part of the story heritage of the race; these, too, he must learn while he is a child. All good fairy tales are

the embodiment of great moral truths. In them the child gets his first glimpses of the moral world just as in the Bible stories he had his first (book) lessons in conduct.

One frequently meets parents who object to having their children taught fairy tales because they say, "They are not true." This is an attempt to confine truth to the physical world; it can not be done. Fairy tales *are* true, morally true, true with a kind of truth that is much bigger and more important than just physical truth. Consider, for example, Cinderella; the fairy god-mother did not *literally* turn the pumpkin into a golden coach, but that is only the story that floats about on the surface of the child's mind. The central thought of Cinderella, as it is of most fairy tales, is that if you are good you will be rewarded, and if you are bad you are sure to be punished. This is the grain of gold that sinks to the bottom of the child's mind, and, when all the other grains of fine gold have been added, becomes the golden thread, a great moral principle, which will guide him through the labyrinth of life.

Is Santa Claus not true? Is there not then a "Spirit Christmas?" Have you not yourself felt the warm glow of him in your heart? Haven't you seen him shining in the eyes of those who wait in the queue to mail their Christmas parcels; in the weary faces of the Christmas shoppers? How can you say that Santa Claus isn't true? "But," you say, "Why not let the children know that Santa Claus is Daddy and Mother"? Because then he becomes a person not a spirit; a person who *owes* kindness and to whom *return* must be made. On the day when you knew that Santa Claus was your father or mother, something, delicate, mystical, spiritual went out of Christmas forever. Now-a-days if you receive an unlooked for parcel, you hasten to send one in return. That is the spirit, kind and good, but woefully human, which has taken the place of your lost Santa Claus. Let the children keep their mystic Santa. Let the children keep their mystic Santa as long as they can, and when it is time for him to go, just see that they understand that though the mystic red face and white beard, the symbols, are gone, the great warm spirit remains. They will understand but it will never be quite the same. Something is lost, something that even the memory of is a precious treasure to carry in one's heart.

The myths and legends follow the fairy tales. These are the stories which embody the explanations our ancestors gave for the scientific phenomena which they could not understand. They are a step nearer the every-day world than the fairy tales. They enchant because the children read them, half believing the story, half understanding the symbolism; the myths are the very food of dreams for the dawning intelligence. Boys and girls should read them between the ages of ten and twelve when they please, satisfy and are never forgotten. All literature is tissued with references to the characters and deeds recorded in them; knowledge of them is, therefore, essential to any understanding of literature.

By this time the children are entering the hero-worshipping stage and the hero story becomes the right kind of mental food. Most children first admire the dim, half mythical heroes. Arthur, Robin Hood, Roland; later they demand historical figures, Harold, Black Prince, Florence Nightingale, Livingstone. At this stage all the people who live in books seem ideal; after them they form their own ideals of life and conduct. That they should have worthy heroes is of first importance.

After the heroes come the historical novels, the tales of adventure and romance. From these the senior pupil learns much, many facts useful to him and the opening mind sees the world as it is and begins to taste life. From Stevenson and Ballantyne he graduates to Scott, Dickens, Tennyson, Longfellow and Shakespeare.

From babyhood up the more classics you can beg, coax, entice, allure a child to read, the better for him. He thinks them dry, perhaps he would rather read the Alger books; so would you. Just stop and think what you mean when you say Oliver Twist and Kenilworth are dry. You mean that they make you think; this year's novel, the magazine story doesn't; and you, like your boy, would rather not think if it can be avoided. But books that do not make you think, books that carry you along in a pleasant kind of drugged dream of impossible adventure and success are the kind to keep you away from your child. You read them sometimes to rest a weary mind, but his mind isn't weary, it doesn't need drugging; indeed drugging is very bad for it. If he is a "reader" and you forbid him these, he will read classics. Let him.

Consider for a moment the "Elsie, Bessie, Patty, Alger" type of book. Why are they harmful? Principally because they do not tell the truth about life. In the Alger books you find usually a poor boy who, without work, and by a stroke of good luck becomes a millionnaire. Is that true of life? Is it the kind of thing you want

your boy or girl to expect of life? To expect it, will, as you know very well, do infinite harm. Those poor boys are invariably virtuous too, of an immaculate virtue, while the rich men's sons are evil, often criminal. Is that true? Is it the kind of doctrine to preach to a world torn by class war? Crimes are described in careful and vivid detail, crimes which leave ineffaceable, tempting pictures on plastic minds. But you say Oliver Twist describes crime. It does and one closes the book with a shudder of fear and horror. This is the point of difference between the classic and the current novel. There is crime in Oliver Twist as there is crime in the Alger books, but in the latter crime stands out while little is said and nothing remembered of the punishment; while in Oliver Twist the horrors of punishment shadow all the book; it is the punishment not the crime which we carry away shuddering. It is, after all, as I said in the beginning, a matter of power. Alger said, "I am going to make the evil thing ugly and hateful," but he was too weak an artist and succeeded only in making it interesting, spicy and rather smart; Dickens made of it a shuddering horror which is unforgettable.

This kind of weak book, the kind that makes the world out better than it is, is the principal menace, I believe, to public school children. For your teen age boys and girls help them to avoid the kind of book or story that makes the world worse than it is; the Marie Corelli, the Hall Caine, the Hichins, the book which purports to describe the lives of the rich and noble as being corrupt. Such books lower the ideals and make the young people think it smart to do and say the things which their own conscience tells them are wrong. Every one is doing it. Why not?

For yourselves, avoid that kind of book which would make you believe that that which is really only a part of life, is the whole of it. Sex for example, is, in innumerable books, made to seem the only thing that matters in life. That is a lie, a vicious lie. You know it; life has taught you better, but such books affect weak minds, untrained readers, the people who never think, and in affecting them do their part towards breaking down the moral strength of the nation.

One book, two books, a dozen of these weak, untruthful books do no harm perhaps. It is when such books become the only mental food of the child or adult that harm ensues. Upon you who read other, thoughtful, truthful, wholesome material, the weak books have little effect. You read them to rest your mind. They do rest it and you benefit. Yes, but it is so easy to slip into the way of reading scarcely anything but the Ladies' Home Journal and the latest novel; good enough in themselves but weakening, slackening as a whole diet. Read nothing else and your mind relaxes, deteriorates. Now you have minds or you would not be here at this Convention, grand minds, keep them up to it—don't slack. You have your young people to think of—and Canada.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE ALBERTA WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

ARTICLE I.—NAME

This organization shall be called the Provincial Organization of the Alberta Women's Institutes.

ARTICLE II.—MOTTO

The motto of the Provincial Organization of the Alberta Women's Institutes shall be "For Home and Country."

ARTICLE III.—POLICY

(a) The Alberta Women's Institutes shall be the central Provincial organization of all Branch Institutes, which have been or may hereafter be formed under the Women's Institute Act.

(b) The organization shall be strictly non-partizan and non-sectarian in every phase of the work, and no Institute shall be operated in the interest of any party, sect or society, but for the equal good of all citizens.

(c) No society or organization for a special purpose shall bring its discussions or its subjects into any meeting of the Alberta Women's Institutes, except by the unanimous consent of the delegates present.

ARTICLE IV.—OBJECT

(a) The object shall be to unite the influence and enterprise of Alberta women, and to co-ordinate the efforts and further the plans of all Branches for home improvement and community betterment.

(b) To promote Educational, Moral, Social and Civic measures, and to compare methods of study and work.

(c) To develop Agriculture, and co-operate with the Alberta Department of Agriculture.

(d) To voice the sentiment of the Branches on all matters of importance within the scope of Women's Institute work.

ARTICLE V.—MEMBERSHIP

Members of a Branch Institute which has a membership of at least eight, and has held at least four meetings during the preceding year, shall be considered members of the Provincial Organization.

ARTICLE VI.—OFFICERS

(a) The officers of the Provincial Organization shall be a President, Vice-President, one Director from each District (who by virtue of office shall be a Vice-President of the Provincial Organization), a Secretary-Treasurer.

(b) These officers, with the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, and an officer of the Department, shall constitute the Advisory Board, each member of which shall report at the annual convention.

(c) Two Directors, one of whom shall be the Provincial President, shall be elected at the Convention, biennially, to serve on the Executive Board of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada.

(d) The Provincial President, Vice-President, and Secretary shall constitute an Executive Committee, with power to transact routine business, and to take such action as may be necessary on matters arising between annual meetings; they shall meet at the call of the President or Secretary-Treasurer as circumstances require, and shall have power to fill any vacancy on the Advisory Board for the unexpired time, and to appoint special committees for special subjects.

ARTICLE VII.—ELECTION

(a) All elections for Provincial officers shall be by ballot, after previous verbal nominations, for a term of two years.

(b) A majority of the votes cast shall be necessary to a choice.

(c) No officer shall be eligible to the same office for more than two consecutive terms, except the Secretary-Treasurer, who may be retained indefinitely by unanimous vote of the Convention body.

(d) Newly elected officers shall enter upon their respective duties at the adjournment of the Convention at which they were elected.

ARTICLE VIII.—AMENDMENTS

(a) This Constitution may be amended at any annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of voting delegates present, provided that the proposed amendments have been submitted in writing at the previous annual meeting, or by the unanimous vote of all present.

(b) By-laws and standing rules may be adopted, amended or repealed at any annual meeting by a two-thirds vote.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I.—DUTIES OF OFFICERS

(a) The Provincial President shall preside at all meetings of the Provincial Organization, and at the Advisory Board and the Executive Committee meetings. She shall appoint all Provincial Conveners of Standing Committees, subject to the approval of the Advisory Board, and shall have general supervision of the work throughout the Province.

(b) In the absence of the President it shall be the duty of the Vice-President to perform the duties of the President, also to assist her in devising and executing plans of work.

(c) It shall be the duty of the District Director, who by virtue of office is Vice-President of the Province, to attend meetings of the Advisory Board; to have a general supervision of the work in her District, and to arrange for the annual District Conference, after consulting with the Provincial President. She shall, as far as possible, assist the Constituency Convener in her district in organizing new Branches, and endeavor to foster and stimulate the W.I. spirit.

(d) The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the Advisory Board, the Executive Committee, and the minutes of the annual Convention. She shall have charge of all documents and papers relating to the business of the organization. She shall conduct all correspondence of the Provincial Organization, and shall keep a correct list of all Branches belonging thereto, of Provincial Officers, Constituency Conveners, and the Conveners of Standing Committees.

(e) She shall receive and hold all moneys belonging to the Provincial Organization, and keep an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements; shall pay all accounts according to instruction of Advisory Board. She shall close her books in sufficient time before the date set for the annual Convention to allow proper auditing by an official auditor chosen by the Advisory Board. She shall give a bond subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, and shall make report in detail at the Annual Convention of receipts and disbursements. She shall, within two weeks after the election of her successor, turn over to such successor all moneys, vouchers, books, etc., of the Provincial Organization under her control, covering all transactions to the time at which she ceased to hold office.

(f) Necessary expenses incurred by officers in the service of the Organization may be refunded from the treasury by order of the Advisory Board.

ARTICLE II.—STANDING COMMITTEES

(a) The Standing Committees for the Provincial Organization shall be: Director of Women's Institutes Girls' Clubs, Child-Welfare and Public Health, Education and Better Schools, Legislation, Immigration, Household Economics, Agriculture, Canadianization and National Events, and Publicity.

(b) The Advisory Board shall have power to increase or reduce the number of Standing Committees as seems necessary to the best interests of the organization.

(c) The duties of Director of Women's Institutes Girls' Clubs shall be as directed by the Advisory Board.

The duties of the Conveners of the Standing Committees shall be to outline the work to be undertaken for the year, and to assist in the carrying out of such work. To send copies of outline to the District Directors and to Constituency Conveners. To obtain reports from her Constituency chairman, and to summarize these, and make a report at the Convention.

ARTICLE III.—DUES

(a) The yearly dues from each Branch to the Provincial Fund shall be 50 cents per capita, to be reckoned on the membership at the time of the December meetings.

(b) Dues shall be payable to the Provincial Secretary-Treasurer of Alberta Women's Institutes on January 1st of each year.

ARTICLE IV.—VOTING MEMBERSHIP

(a) The voting membership shall consist of the Provincial President, Vice-President, District Directors, Secretary-Treasurer, Past Provincial Presidents, Constituency Conveners of Standing Committees, and one official delegate from each Branch.

(b) Each officer and delegate at the Annual Convention shall have one vote. Voting by proxy, either verbal or written, shall not be admissible.

(c) Any member may attend the Annual Convention and take part in the discussion, but the voting membership shall be as provided for in Section a, Article IV.

ARTICLE V.—RESOLUTIONS

(a) The Resolutions Committee shall consist of the Executive Committee, and two other members appointed by the President. Resolutions, so far as possible, should be sent to the Provincial Secretary-Treasurer at least one month before the Annual Convention.

(b) All resolutions must be endorsed by the delegates of at least two Branches, or a Constituency Conference, a District Conference, the Provincial Advisory Board, or the Provincial Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI.—PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

All meetings of Alberta Women's Institutes shall be governed by Mrs. Parsons' Rules of Order.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE ALBERTA WOMEN'S INSTITUTE GIRLS' CLUB, HELD AT JASPER PARK, JULY 8th, 9th and 10th, 1926

The Seventh Annual Convention of the Women's Institute Girls' Club was held at Lake Edith Camp, Jasper Park, July 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, with an attendance of seventy. A shady spot by the water's edge overlooking the blue waters of Lake Edith and that majestic group of mountains known as the Saw-tooth Ridge, was selected for the morning sessions.

The session of July 8th was opened by singing "O Canada," followed by the Club Creed. The minutes of the 1925 Convention were read and approved. The Secretary then gave the financial report. On motion of Clara Johnson and Selma Ekstrom this report was adopted.

The following committees were appointed from the chair:

Judges for Competition—Miss Macmillan, Mrs. Huyck, Mrs. Harris.

Resolutions—Mr. MacAllister, Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Campbell.

Mrs. Harris of Jasper Women's Institute welcomed the girls to Jasper and brought a challenge from the Jasper girls to a game of basketball, to be played on Friday evening; the girls were invited to attend a weiner roast after the game.

Miss Minnie Page, in her presidential address, spoke of the freedom of speech and action which girls of the present enjoy, pointing out its privileges and its dangers. She advised the girls to develop individuality, encourage natural abilities, express the real self in all that is done, be sincere, painstaking and alert.

Mrs. Huyck brought greetings from the Women's Institute and presented the girls with a ten dollar cheque from the Women's Institute Executive. Mrs. Huyck in her address stressed the interest the senior institute took in the girls' work and their desire to help the girls' organization grow. Her talk was of a general nature dealing with efficiency, charm, dress and opportunities open to girls.

Nellie Campbell, first Vice-President, thanked Miss Macmillan and her department for the efforts they had put forth which made it possible for the entire executive to attend this Convention. Mrs. Campbell spoke on the club creed and what its observance meant in the development of character.

The following Clubs reported—

Northern Lights, McLennan, Helen Bromley; Evansburg, Constance Earley; Ogwanda, Edgerton, Pearl Groves; Alliance, Florence Snyder; Highland View, Hughenden, Margaret Mitchel.

Meeting then adjourned.

During the afternoon the girls hiked to Maligne Canyon, visited the tea room and took a short-cut home. History repeats itself, and the girls learned once more that the longest way round is the surest way home.

In the evening the girls enjoyed their first dip in the blue waters of Lake Edith.

MORNING SESSION OF JULY 9TH

The morning session of July 9th opened by singing "O Canada," followed by the Club Creed.

Mrs. Stavert, convener of tent inspection committee, gave her report.

Mrs. C. A. Gates, of Stony Plain, Institute Director for District No. 1, gave the girls a most delightful talk on her recent trip to England including a vivid description of the Wembley Exhibition.

Mr. McAllister, of the extension Department, University of Alberta, found no difficulty in holding the attention of his hearers in his most interesting talk, "The Romance of the Jasper Trail."

Miss Benoit, Director for District No. 1, in her talk "How to Make Club Work in District No. 1 More Successful," pointed out that more clubs were absolutely necessary.

Miss Ekstrom, Director for District No. 2, followed with a strong plea for the immigrant girl, of whom there are growing numbers in our province.

The following Clubs reported—

Jolly Girls, Denton, Jennie Raycroft; Huxley, Doris Faught; Maple Leaves, Vulcan, Elvessa Brown; Live Wire, Three Hills, Ethel Duffy; Garden Prairie,

Barons, Aulta Barlow; Elnora, Grace Basset; Silver Heights, Estelle Gilbertson; Stony Plain, Maybelle Clark; Starline, Verda Flittor; Munsin, Edith Robinson; Invincibles, Duchess, Elizabeth Sheldrake.

Meeting adjourned.

AFTERNOON OF JULY 9TH

During the afternoon the girls took an auto ride up Mount Edith Cavell to the end of the auto road. From here they hiked along a well worn footpath to the Ghost Glacier. An hour at the glacier was all too short, there were so many wonderful things to see and to learn of. The return trip was made by way of the town of Jasper.

During the evening a most exciting game of basketball was played between the camp girls and Jasper, ending in favor of the Jasper girls. The game was followed by a weiner roast, at which our girls were able to hold their own.

JULY 10TH

The morning session of July 10th opened by singing "O Canada."

The following Clubs reported—

Oids, Elsie Stock; Eagle Hill, Florence Rowe; Busy Bees, Barons, Ethel Lebow; Harmony, Granum, Margaret Ross; Trochu Tribe, Nora Walker; Burdett, Ena Jube; Leduc, Marie Dittrich.

Mrs. Stavertt then gave a short talk in which she suggested that the girls through their programs, try to find vocations. She said every girl should have a hobby which she can commercialize.

Miss Isobel Noble, Supervisor of Girls' Clubs, spoke on "Character Culture," and emphasized three points—Know Yourself, Be Yourself, Give Yourself.

This was followed by a model business meeting put on by ten girls from Stony Plain and their Supervisor, Mrs. Wood.

Hon. George Hoadley spoke to the girls on "The Woman Citizen." He urged the members who were now able to vote, to help other girls coming to voting age, to vote wisely. Mr. Hoadley emphasized the fact that social reform must be approached from the standpoint of humanity—not party.

Minnie Tyler, Director for District No. 3, read reports from the Clubs at Galahad and Killam, and gave some very good suggestions for the improvement of girls' club work in her district.

Publicity reports and suggestions were given by Gladys Ricker, Publicity Convener. Miss Macmillan then gave her report on the secretaries' reports received at her office. Miss Macmillan pointed out that in reporting, names should be printed or typed; initials should be given and whether Mrs. or Miss should be stated. Attendance must be given. The important thing first. In most cases more detail should be given. Report should be sent as soon as possible after meeting.

Hon. George Hoadley told the girls at this time that his department would offer another $250 scholarship, to be known as the efficiency scholarship, details in connection with same to be worked out by a committee composed of Miss Macmillan, Miss Noble, and the Girls' Club president.

Meeting then adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION OF JULY 10TH

The afternoon session opened by a few words of greeting from Mrs. Upton.

Margaret Ross gave her report for District No. 4, together with good suggestions for the work in her district.

Brenda Rowe gave the Delia Club report.

The meeting place for our next Convention was discussed. On motion of Selma Eckstrom seconded by Elizabeth Sheldrake, it was decided to hold the 1927 convention at Banff.

Prizes for the competitions were presented by the Hon. Geo. Hoadley. Winners were as follows:

Doughnuts, Rosalie Card, McLennan.
Cookies, Nellie Hudson, Garrengbou.
Bread, Edna Card, McLennan.
Canned Chicken, Ella Barlow, Barons.
Canned Meat, Coral Strang, Barons.
Canned Strawberries, Margaret Mitchell, Hughenden.
Booklet, Ella Barlow, Barons.
Essay, Isobel McDermaid, Evansburg.
Nightie, Evelyn Gathercole, Eagle Hill.
Darning, Ella Barlow, Barons.

Susanne Beatty, Secretary of Garden Prairie Club, Barons, was awarded the prize for the best reports during the year.

Alliance and Vulcan Clubs tied for the prize for organizing the most new clubs, each having organized two.

The scholarship was won by Neva Dailey, Munson.

Mr. Hoadley announced that he would donate six beautiful pictures as prizes for next year's competition.

Competition subjects decided on for next year were as follows:

Cooking—Crab Apple Jelly, Nut Loaf, Fruit Cake.
Sewing—Step-in and Slip, Dresser Scarf and Pillow Cases (set), Buffet Set.
Essay—Up to 2,000 words. Any topic relative to "Home and Country."
Poster—Landscape Gardening suitable for country home.
Mounted Pictures—Three or more, flat mount, suitable for bedroom.
Booklet—Balancing the Budget, showing harmony of color in dress and suitability to the individual. Cost of all clothing for the year not to exceed $200.

The following resolutions were passed:

1. We, the girls of the Women's Institute Girls' Club, met in Convention at Jasper, wish that a hearty vote of thanks be extended to the following persons:

To Hon. George Hoadley for providing a scholarship to a School of Agriculture; for sending Miss Noble to visit our Clubs, and the financial assistance he gave which enabled all the executive and district directors to attend this Convention.

To The Women's Institute for their donation of ten dollars, and for sending Mrs. Huyck to our Convention.

To Miss Macmillan and her department for their efforts and assistance during the year.

To the Department of Extension, University of Alberta, for sending Mr. McAllister.

To Miss Noble, Miss Page and Mrs. Johnson for their untiring efforts during the year.

To Mr. Madill, District Passenger Agent Canadian National Railways, for his valuable assistance in our transportation.

To Mr. Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Carscadden, their staff, and any others who have helped to make our Convention a success.

To Otto Brothers for their interest and taxi assistance.

To the Jasper Women's Institute and Basketball Team for the splendid way in which they entertained us.

To the Edmonton Women's Institute for the many kindnesses shown us while in their city.

2. To the Honorable George Hoadley, Minister of Agriculture: We the Women's Institute Girls' Club, met in Convention at Jasper, hereby ask that you arrange to send Miss Noble, our Supervisor, to visit our Clubs again during the coming year.

Election of officers resulted as follows:

Honorary President—Minnie Page, Trochu.
President—Miss Selma Ekstrom, Calmar.
Vice-President—Mrs. Nellie Campbell, Olds.
Secretary-Treasurer—Mrs. Clara Johnson, Alliance.
Directors—
District No. 1—Helen Bromley, McLennan.
District No. 2—Marie Dittrich, Leduc.
District No. 3—Estelle Gilbertson, Silver Heights.
District No. 4—Aulta Barlow, Barons.
Publicity Convener—Gladys Ricker, Alliance.

In the evening of July 10, the girls enjoyed a banquet and dance at Jasper Park Lodge.

On Sunday morning a most impressive church service was conducted by the Rev. George Coulter, pastor of Jasper United Church.

The party returned to Edmonton Monday morning just in time for the parade in connection with the Exhibition.

At the luncheon given by the Hudson's Bay, Miss Minnie Page was presented with a handsome beaded purse as a token of appreciation of the splendid work done during her term of office.

At four o'clock the girls had tea at Government House, the guests of His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Egbert and Mrs. Egbert.

Respectfully submitted,
CLARA JOHNSON, Secretary.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Receipts—

Langdon W.I.G.C.	$ 4.25	
Delia	3.75	
Vulcan	7.00	
Manyberries	3.25	
McLennan	2.25	
Munson	2.50	
Olds	4.00	
Milk River	5.25	
Highland View	4.50	
Bassano	3.75	
Duchess	2.50	
Burdett	4.00	
Evansburg	7.25	
Stony Plain	3.75	
Garden Prairie	7.00	
Denton	3.85	
Eagle Hill	3.25	
Lakesend	1.75	
Starline	4.75	
Silver Heights	3.00	
Leduc	4.85	
Sundre	4.25	
Barons	4.35	
Elnora	3.50	
Alliance	3.00	
	$101.55	
Cash from last year	56.79	
Total		$158.34

Expenditures—

Telephone Service and Telegrams	$13.25	
Mr. McAllister's expenses while attending Conv'tn	20.55	
Flowers	6.15	
Stamps and Stationery	6.15	
President's expenses white attending executive m't'g	8.21	
Secretary's expenses while attending executive m't'g	6.90	
	$61.21	
Balance on hand	97.13	
Total		$158.34

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Ladies, Mr. McAllister, Mr. Hoadley, Girls of our Girls' Club organization—

I appreciate this opportunity of being able to speak to you once more gathered in Convention here at Jasper. I hope that we all realize first the fullness of our opportunity of meeting here surrounded by the beauties of nature, with the enjoyable task of planning the future of our Girls' Club organization. Any future greatness of our Club will depend upon the foundation which we are building now. We are putting forth every effort to make it a good one. If inspiration is needed to aid us we would surely be inspired by the beauty and grandeur of our surroundings and the freedom from our usual tasks. We are here to play and enjoy ourselves and we have a time set apart for that. We have a time for our work also, and after all, we enjoy our play much better when we feel that we have earnestly endeavored to make the most of our period of work. That is what we want to do here. If our morning sessions are a bit strenuous we will enjoy our afternoons that much more.

You know, girls, that we are so used to the liberty of speech and action of this modern age that we sometimes forget that the privileges which we now have were not always open to girls. Our grandmothers, when they were young, had no such organization as ours, much less the opportunity of enjoying a camping trip so many

miles from home as we are. Popular opinion alone, at that time, would have condemned such freedom and such bold ideas as altogether out of the sphere of womanhood.

It is true that the girl today must depend on her individual personality and charm to be the success that she wishes to be. How often we have watched Miss Brown or Miss Smith make themselves particularly interesting or attractive to someone they meet. You admire the easy grace and the free flow of speech that makes your friend the possessor of many pleasing acquaintances.

The ability to be thus interesting or attractive is not altogether a gift or a secret. It may be cultivated and developed by those who have the ambition and it will certainly repay the effort that it costs.

You must constantly develop your individuality. People want to know you because you are different from others. It is the "you" that they want to know. It would be very monotonous meeting people who were all the same. This "you" wants to be developed according to the natural ability and the personality that you have. The girls that have made the greatest success of their lives are those who have developed themselves according to their own natural abilities.

We know many girls who have particularly pretty faces, yet they do not make near the successes socially as their less beautiful sisters. I know too, a girl who, as a child was very pretty and very interesting, but who through some reason, probably from being petted and spoiled, cultivated a frown which in the course of years spoiled her pretty face and her good disposition.

An alert, bright, changing face is the face that is interesting and a sparkling countenance but reflects an active mind within. Unless the girl behind the face is eager, wide awake, and on tip-toe to explore the wonders of the world, the charm of countenance is in most cases lost.

We all admire the girl who can handle a trying situation in a quiet, orderly, masterly way, the girl who is self-possessed and shows it by her ability. Did you ever think of the reason for this? Such ability is not shown by the girl whose temper is short, whose brain is muddled and whose nerves are on edge.

To make friends, be friendly. To be interesting, be interested. To be a good hearer as well as a good talker, show the open frankness that comes from an unselfish spirit. Do you show a hearty, unselfish co-operation to all work that you undertake? Do your friends know this and enjoy being with or working with you? We should live by what we do, not by how long we live. These, girls, are the qualities that other people like to see in you, and these qualities they can pretty well tell just by observing you for a while.

You are women in the making. All the little habits or traits that you accept will show up later. They make your character. The "you" of you. Whether it is holding your temper, or keeping yourself neat, or trying to be always pleasant. Notice some of the elderly ladies you meet. See those wrinkles that a habit of worry has made! See those closely drawn lips reflecting a grudging spirit within! See that hooked nose! What can that mean but to know too much of other people's business? And again—That overfed, ungroomed figure. What does that mean but a life that has never been fired by the ambition to get up and do things? Now turn to that quiet peaceful old lady whose eyes twinkle. We know without enquiring that her life has been a success. Although you have never met her you may know that her life has been full of energy—she has admired the beautiful, has shared the joy of her friends when they had joy and wept with them in their sorrow. Such a woman gets the most out of her three-score and ten years. What character do you want to reflect when you are sixty? Choose now, because your habits now will decide for you.

Not many years ago one could not be a "lady" unless you were to show a decided physical weakness. "Ladies" were supposed to exercise little, and then only a quiet walk in the garden. A carriage was to convey them even the shortest distance and they were to sit on a sofa and sip tea when they got there. Their mother or chaperon was to carry the smelling salts bottle and upon the slightest excitement they were to faint gracefully away, to be revived again much to the relief of their male admirers.

How differently we may live today and still be within the laws of society! All girls now may enjoy their share of hiking, boating, tennis or games, and may get the satisfaction that there is in physical exercise. Health, if you have it, is your greatest asset. Many rich people would give all they possess to have health like some of us. Take plenty of outdoor exercise, eat the right foods, and don't indulge. Don't plead ignorance if you don't observe the rules of right living. In this day of enlightenment and knowledge, when the information that you require may be had for the asking there is no excuse for not knowing.

Of course this freedom that we enjoy in our modern world may be overdone. I believe that we should take part in games that give us plenty of exercise and activity but not in athletics that are too strenuous—that tax the endurance to the utmost. Greatest harm is done when girls go on long hikes, or compete in foot races, or distance swimming. There is no harm in doing all these things if we really want to, but we should spend time in training and conditioning ourselves before the competition—the same as the men do.

To go along with these activities fashion decrees that girls should have a boyish figure, bobbed hair, and short skirts, but that is no excuse for girls adopting some of the masculine habits that are not elevating. I have reference to smoking. And right here I want to say that girls who smoke are overstepping the mark. They don't realize the duty they owe to themselves and to their sex. They make themselves conspicuous besides losing the daintiness of their age which should be the pride of girlhood. One of the duties that we must now owe to ourselves and to others is a lively interest in the affairs of our province. In the days gone by we did not consider that so important, for then women had only influence not rights—now we have rights.

If not already—you will within the next few years have the right to vote. With this right to vote comes full responsibility as a citizen. Your interest and understanding should come now. I do not mean the views of other people. The way your grandfather voted fifty years ago should have no influence on you. Use your own well-thought out sound judgment, and you can't do that without an interest and understanding.

We are all full of energy and ambition for our Club. The problem is to direct our energy in the right way. In our morning sessions I would like discussion and opinions from all of you. We are all enthusiastic, I know, and none of us need feel timid here. If you think your plan or suggestion would help—tell us—because it would. We want to make this Convention our most helpful one, our most interesting one, our most inspirational one, and then it will be the most successful. We want each delegate to take home just that something that her Club needs, just that something that her girls at home have been searching for.

We must not think that we are the only active girls' organization, but I believe we have the best undenominational organization of its kind, and one to be very proud of. I know that it is filling a great need among the girls, and in districts where they have learned to use our organization a great deal of the best kind of training is being given to girls as citizens of our Province and of our Dominion; and I would ask the co-operation in every way, of each girl here, to make this Convention the success that we want it to be.